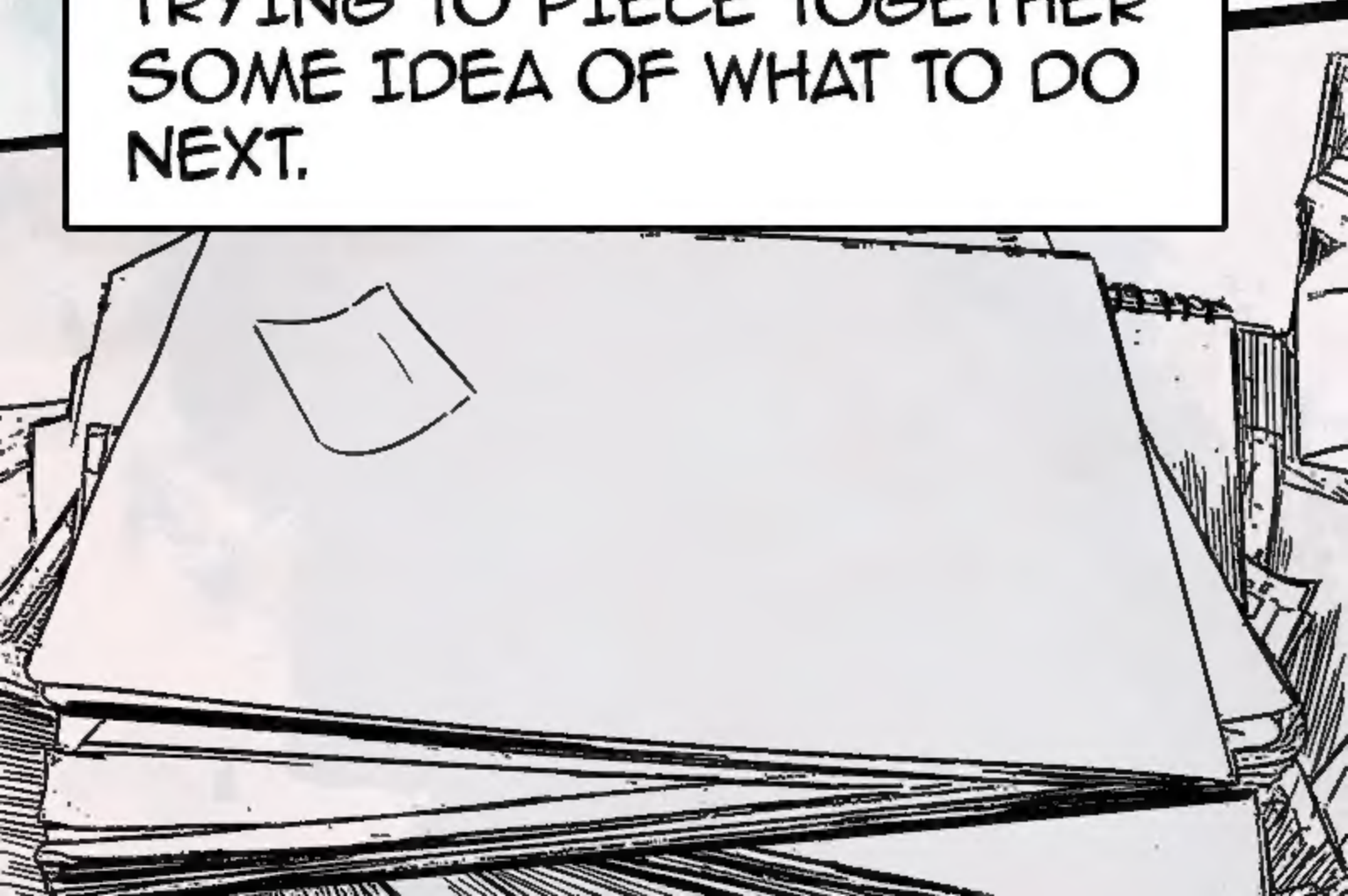
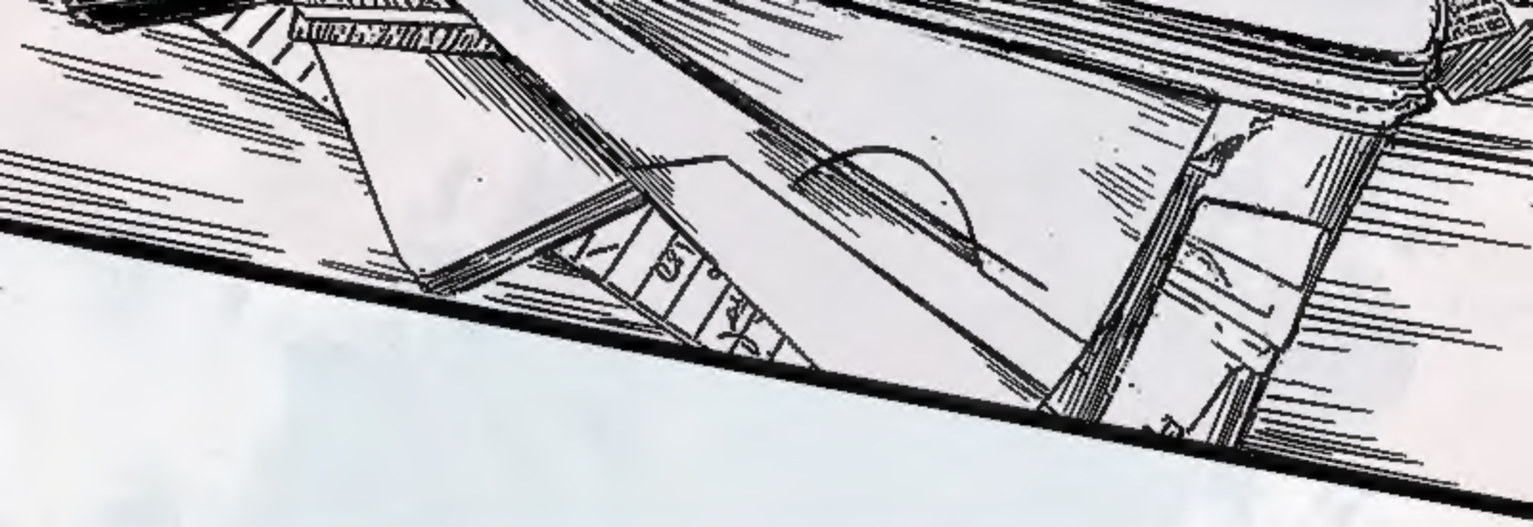
WE DID A LOT OF RESEARCH OVER THE NEXT TWO DAYS...

TRYING TO PIECE TOGETHER SOME IDEA OF WHAT TO DO NEXT.





IT ALSO GAVE ME AND JEREMY...

...A CHANCE TO TALK.

Digg

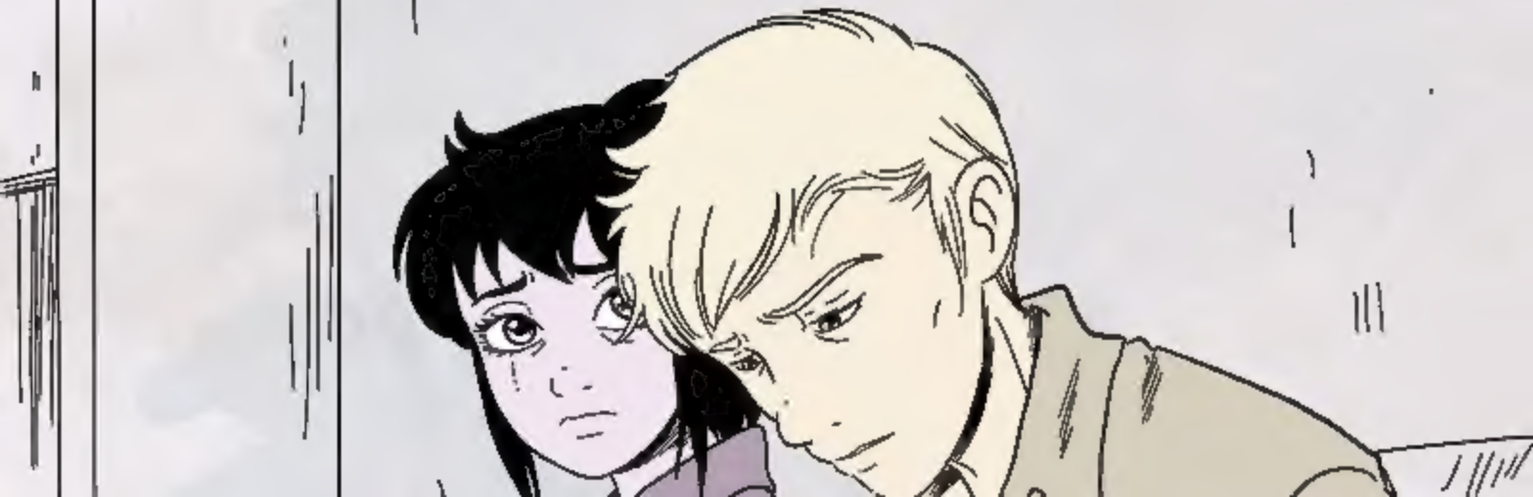
n

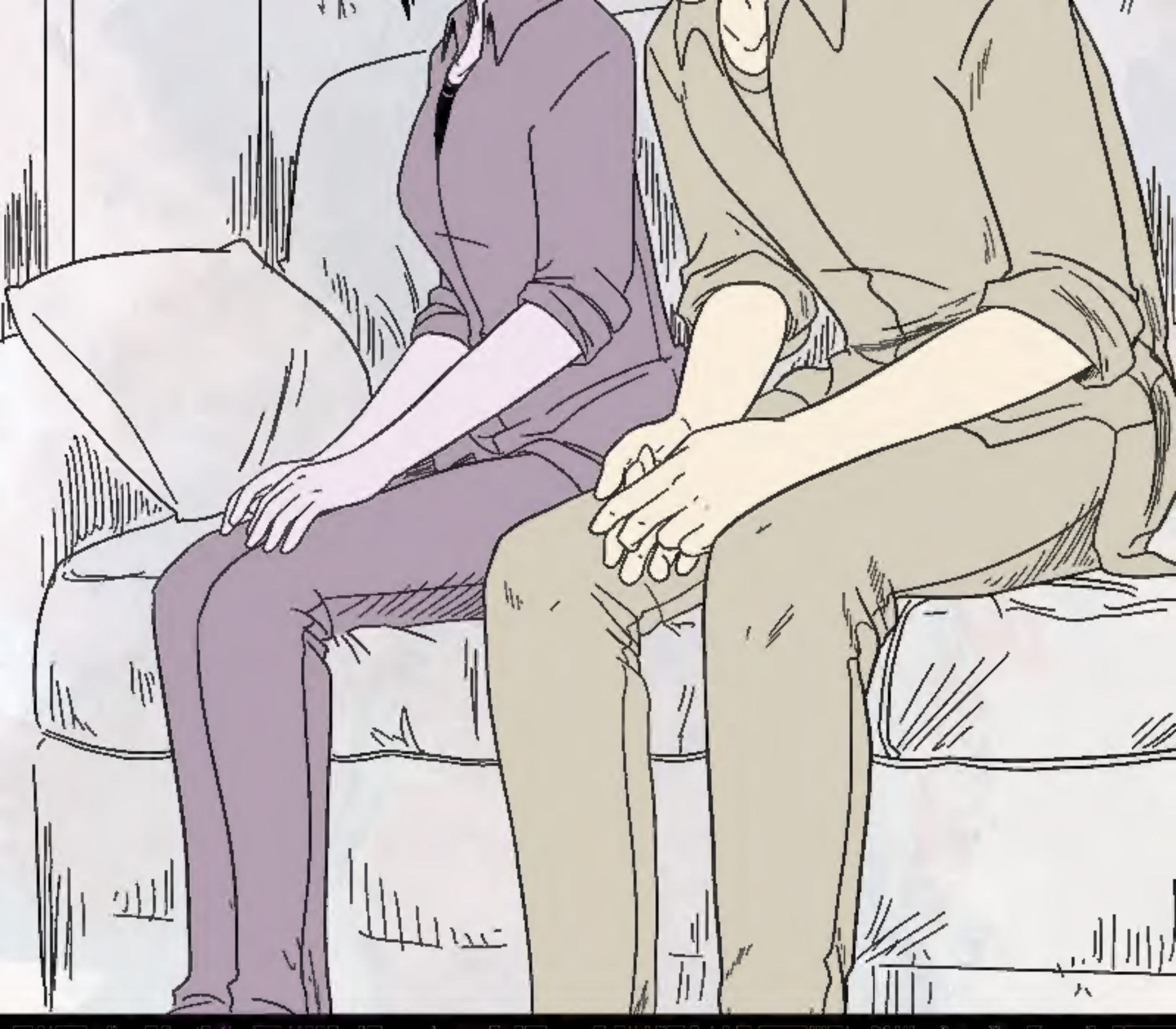
g...

part five

I HADN'T REALLY TOLD JEREMY EVERYTHING THAT I WENT THROUGH. I FIGURED IT WOULD BE GOOD TO JUST CLEAR IT ALL UP.

EVEN IF I HATED THE THOUGHT OF RELIVING IT. OR MAKING *HIM* RELIVE ANYTHING.



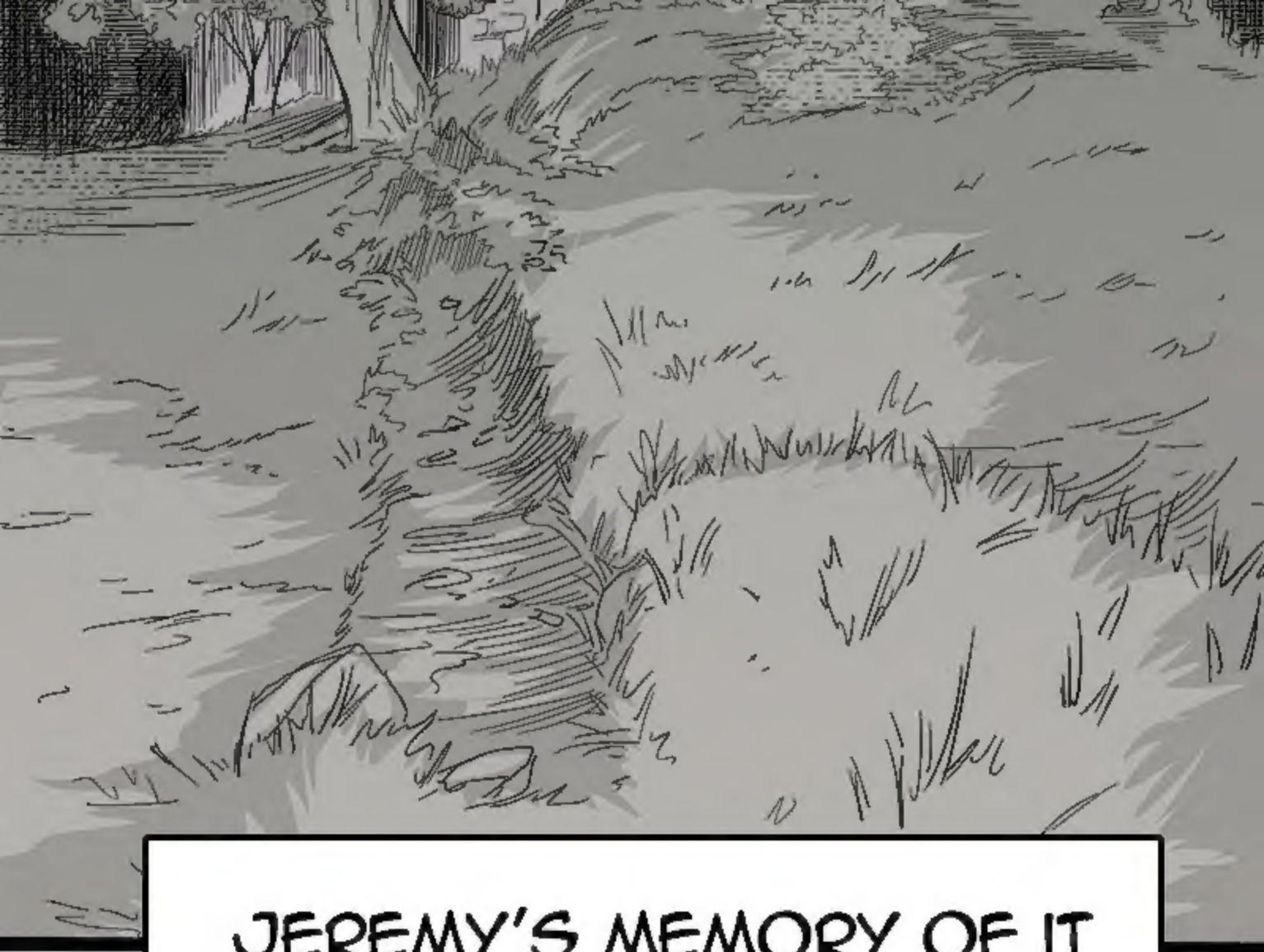


I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO FEEL GUILTY OR RELIEVED THAT HE ALSO REMEMBERED THE TUNNELS UNDER THE FARM HOUSE.

I DIDN'T WANT TO THINK OF HIM

GOING THROUGH ALL THAT...

BUT IT WAS NICE TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE UNDERSTOOD WHAT IT WAS LIKE.

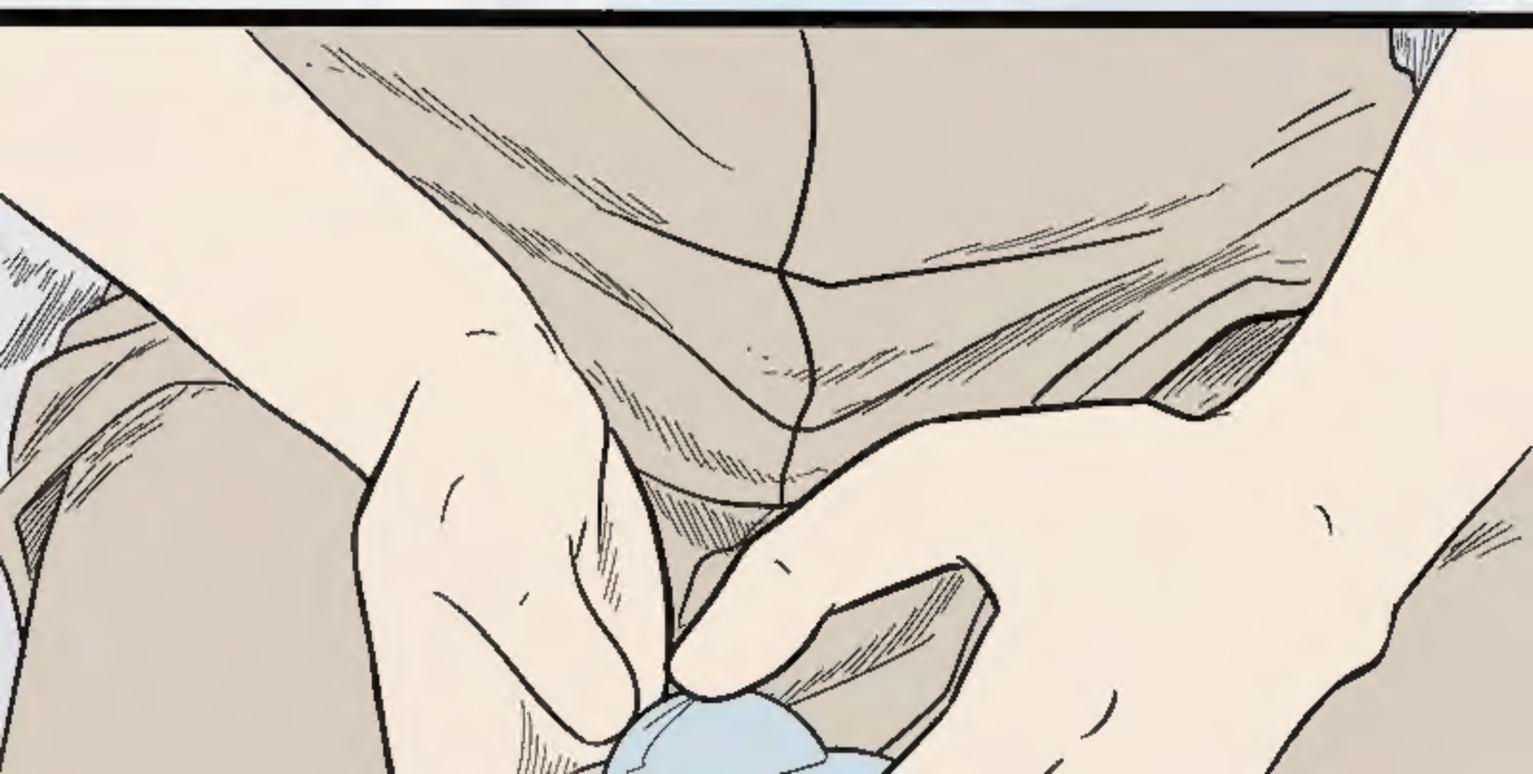


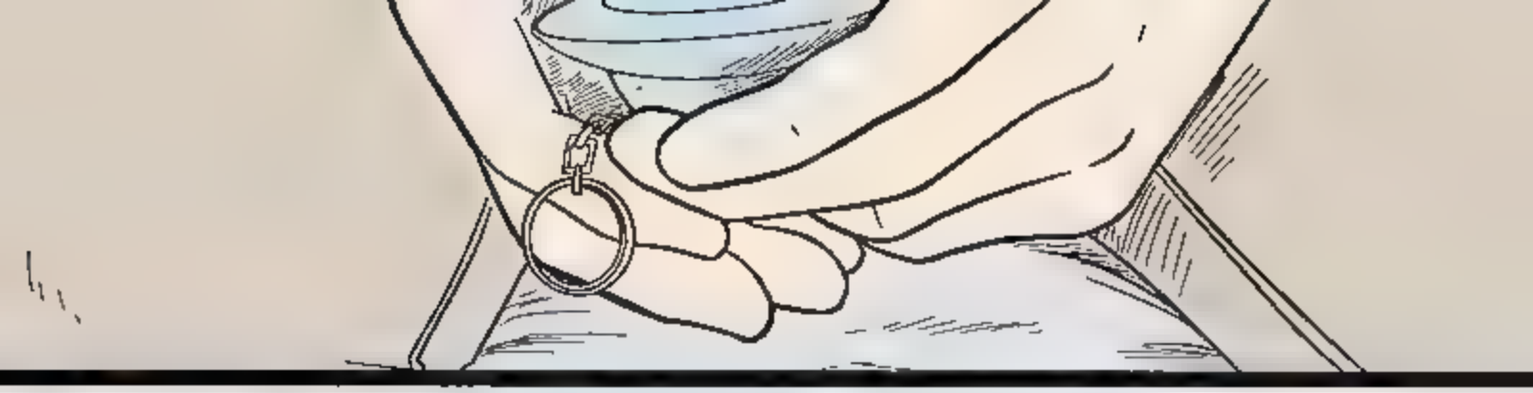
JEREMY'S MEMORY OF IT WASN'T THE BEST, AND I DON'T BLAME HIM FOR BLOCKING IT OUT. I'VE BEEN TRYING TO DO THE SAME SINCE I LEFT IT.

HE WASN'T EVEN SURE

HE WASN'T EVEN SURE HOW HE LOST HIS UFO KEYCHAIN THERE...

THOUGH I COULD TELL HE WAS REALLY GLAD TO GET IT BACK.





I GUESS IT MUST MEAN A LOT TO HIM.

HE INSISTED ON TELLING ME ABOUT HIS TIME UNDERGROUND, AS WELL. OR...

WELL, HE TRIED TO TELL ME. IT WAS DIFFICULT.

LIKE SOMETHING YOU CAN'T PUT INTO WORDS. LIKE TRYING TO DESCRIBE A NIGHTMARE THAT WAS HORRIFIC TO YOU, BUT MEANS VERY LITTLE TO OTHERS.

ALL YOU CAN SAY OVER AND OVER IS, "IT WAS JUST SO AWFUL."

WHILE KNOWING THEY CAN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND *WHY.*

HE HAD NO CONTROL OVER SOME OF THE THINGS HE SAW, OR EVEN IF HE SAW NOTHING AT ALL FOR LONG STRETCHES OF TIME.

BLACKNESS...

DARKNESS...

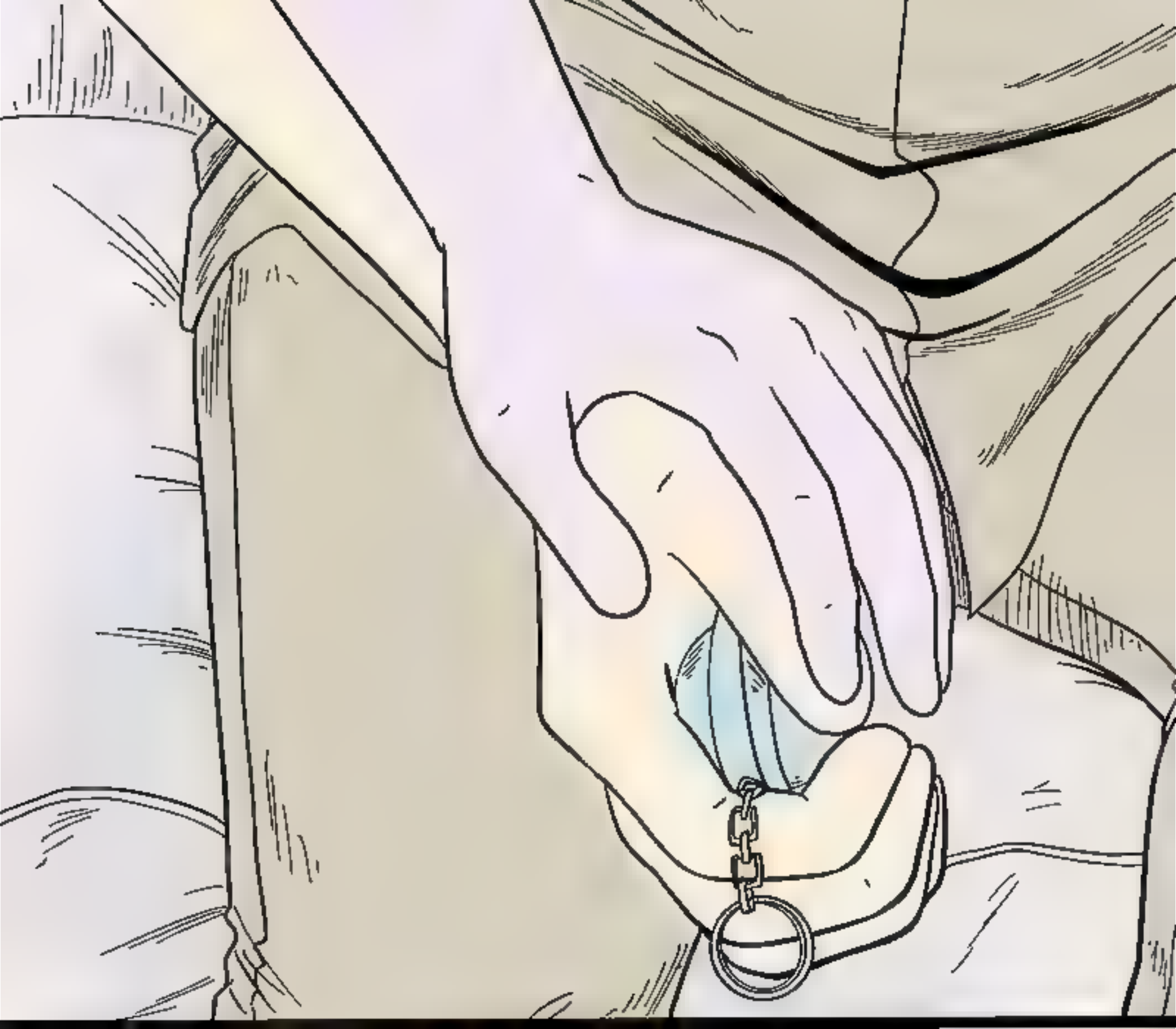
PARTS OF THE TOWN...

PARTS OF MEMORIES THAT MADE NO SENSE...

THAT DIDN'T *BELONG* TO HIM...

AND SOMETIMES, HE COULD SENSE *US*. BUT WE COULDN'T HEAR HIM.

AND HE COULDN'T *HELP*.

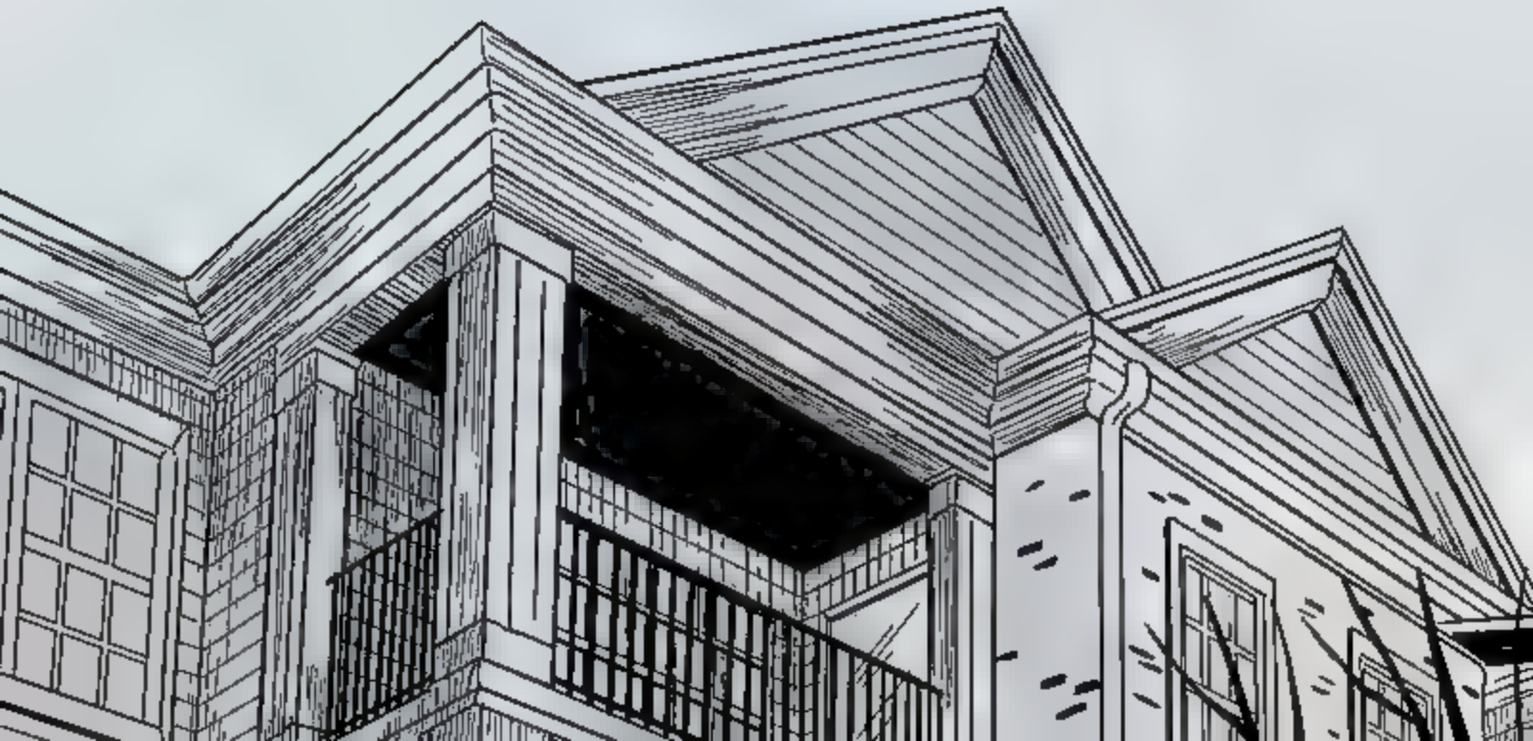


BUT I THINK HE HELPED MORE THAN ENOUGH.

MORE THAN WE COULD EVER THANK HIM FOR.

FINALLY, WE HAD TO TALK ABOUT WHAT WAS BOTHERING US NOW.

FELIX.



HE'S BEEN OUT ALL DAY JUST, I DUNNO...

PATROLLING, OR SOME KINDA THING

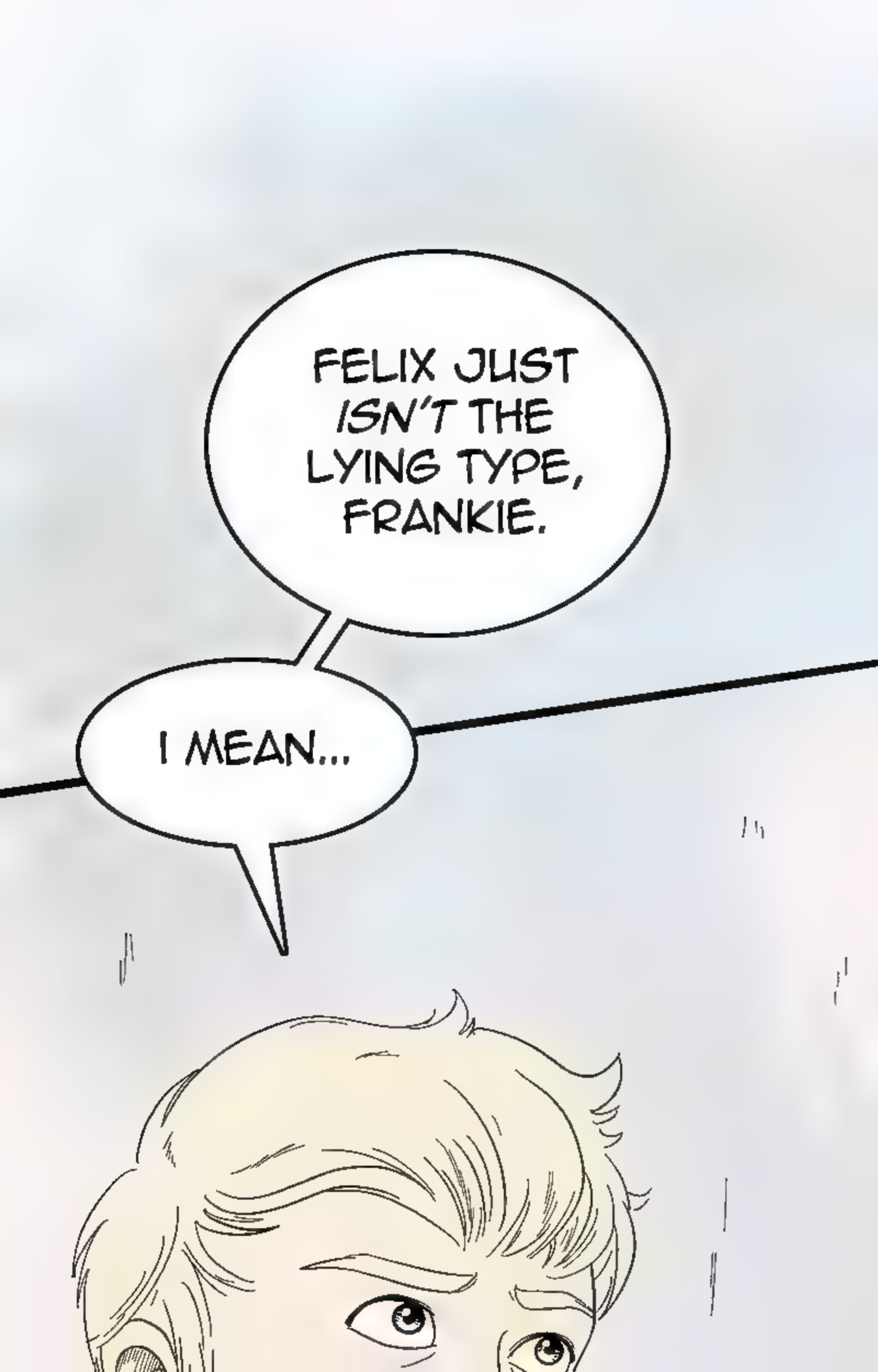
KINDA THING, AROUND THE COMPLEX.

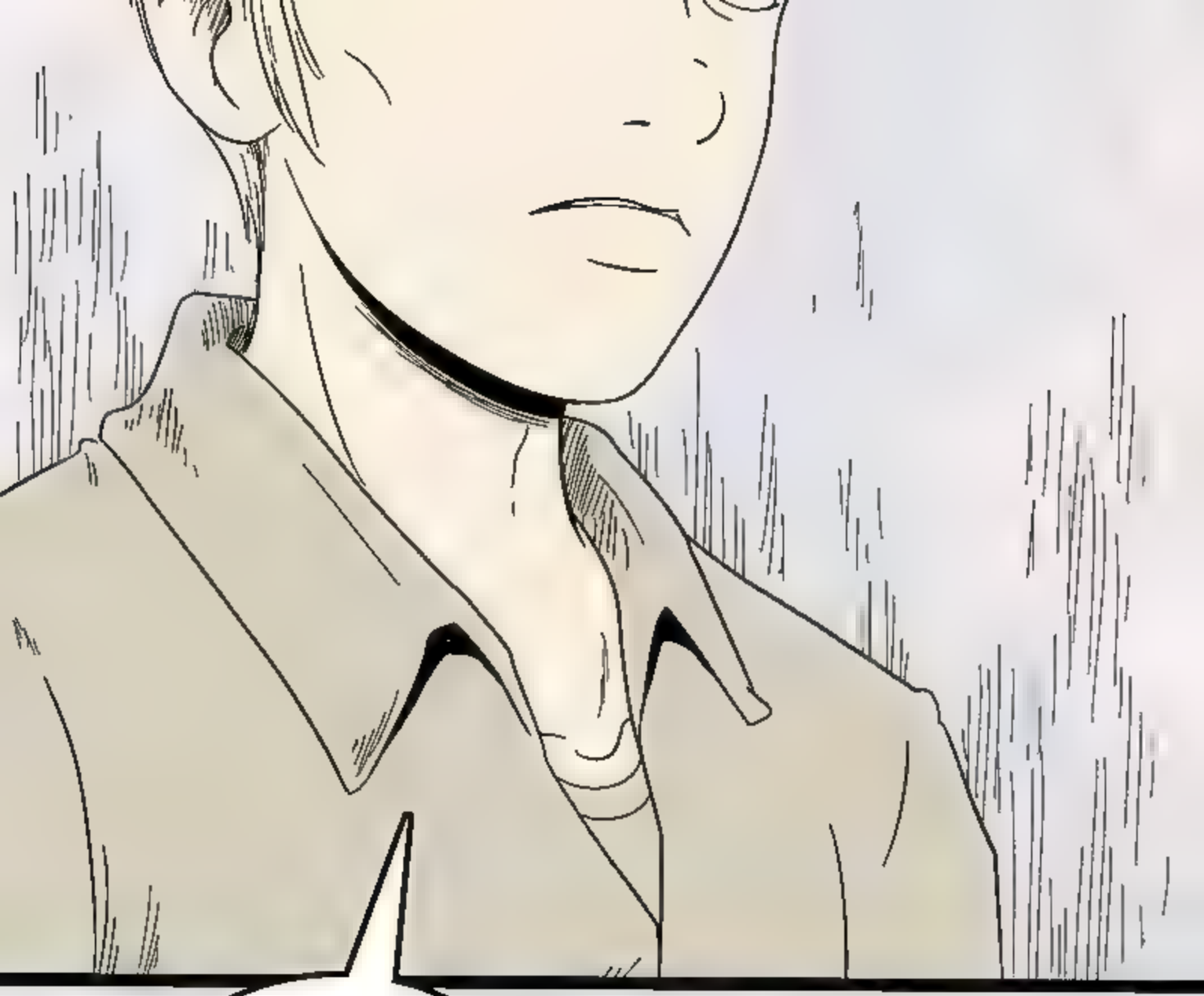
HE KEEPS SAYING HE'S FINE, HE'S FINE, AND HE'S ***NOT*** FINE AT ALL.

IF HE'S SEEN

SOMETHING, WHY WOULDN'T HE JUST *TELL* US? HE TELLS US EVERYTHING!

HE TELLS ME EVERY TIME HE DOES A LOAD OF *LAUNDRY!*


FELIX JUST ISN'T THE LYING TYPE, FRANKIE.
I MEAN...


NOT REALLY.
THE MOST HE USUALLY DOES IS SORT OF "FORGET" TO

TELL ME ABOUT STUFF HE THINKS MIGHT UPSET ME.

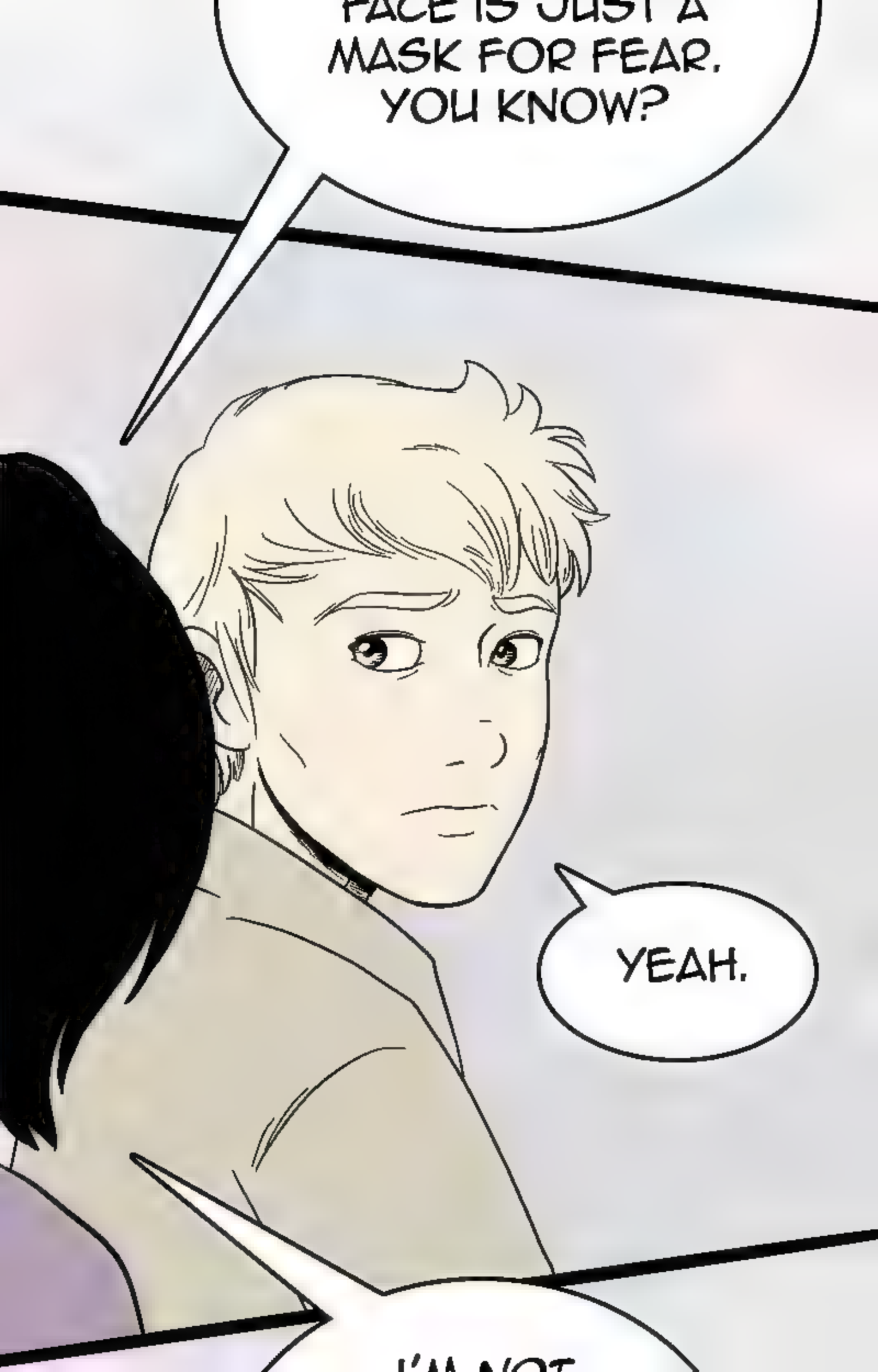
BUT HE WOULDN'T EVER TELL ME THINGS ARE FINE IF THERE'S TROUBLE.

LOOK, I HATE TALKING ABOUT HIM BEHIND HIS BACK. BUT WE NEED TOTAL HONESTY.

BACK ME UP HERE...WE CAN'T HIDE ANYTHING FROM EACH OTHER. AND WE CAN'T GIVE FELIX A PASS ON IT.

YOU'D NEVER JUST HIDE STUFF FROM ME, BECAUSE YOU *KNOW* IT'S A BAD IDEA.

N-NO... COURSE NOT.
EXACTLY.
I KNOW FELIX LIKES TO PUT ON A HAPPY FACE ALL THE TIME TO KEEP THINGS CALM...
BUT I FEEL LIKE THAT HAPPY

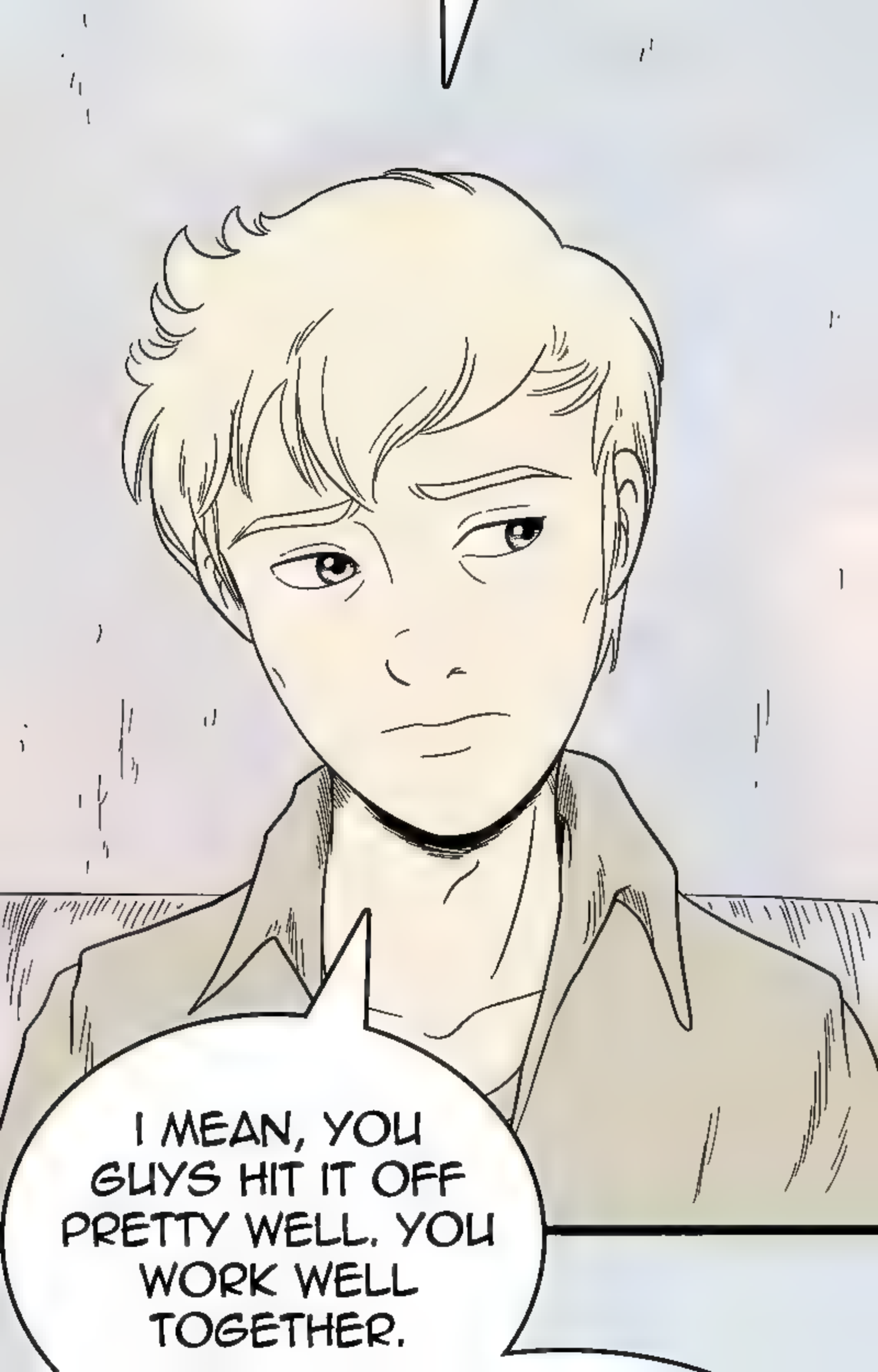

FACE IS JUST A MASK FOR FEAR. YOU KNOW?
YEAH.

I'M NOT MAD AT HIM.

I'M JUST REALLY, REALLY WORRIED FOR FELIX.

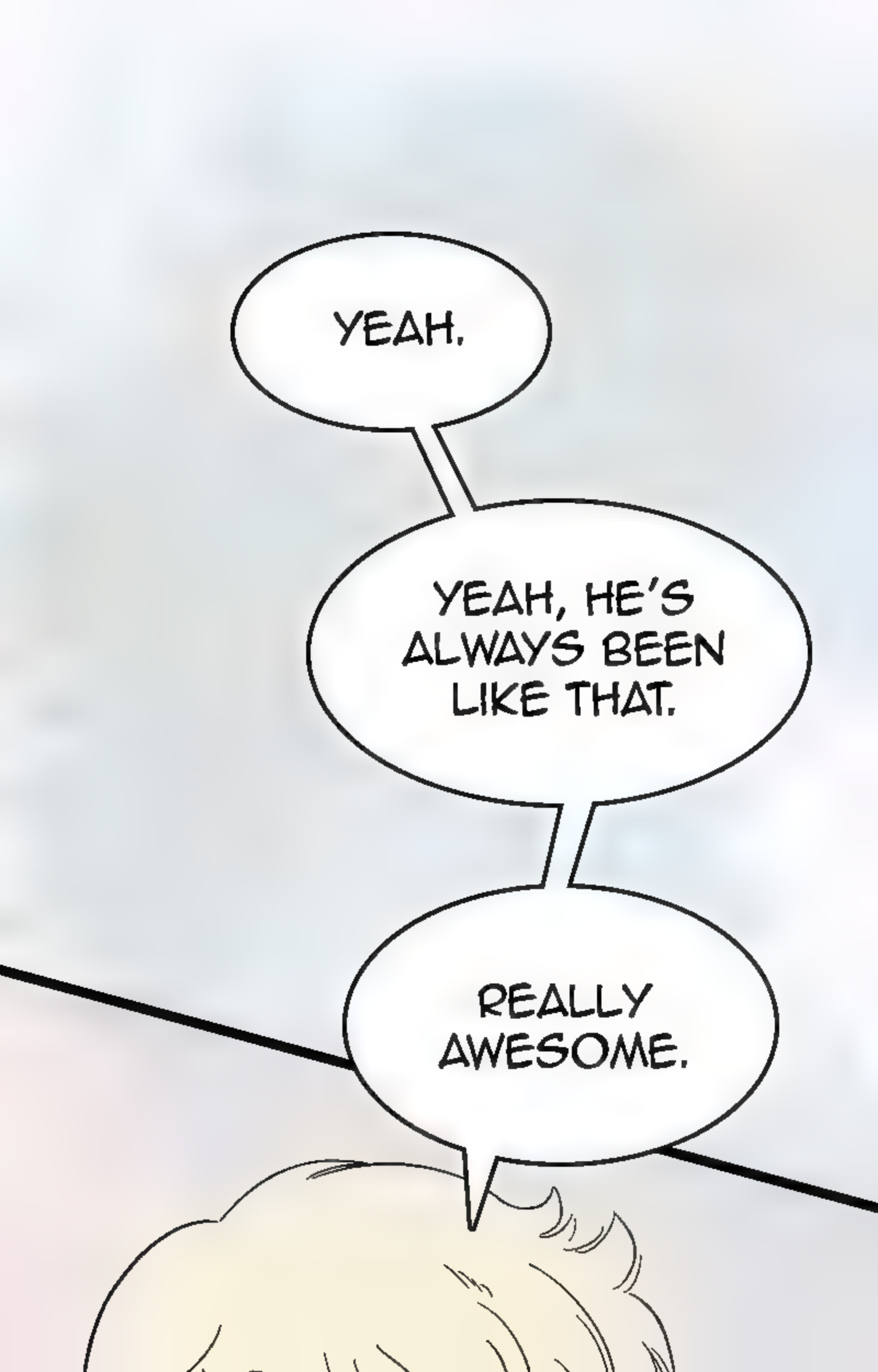
YOU, UH...

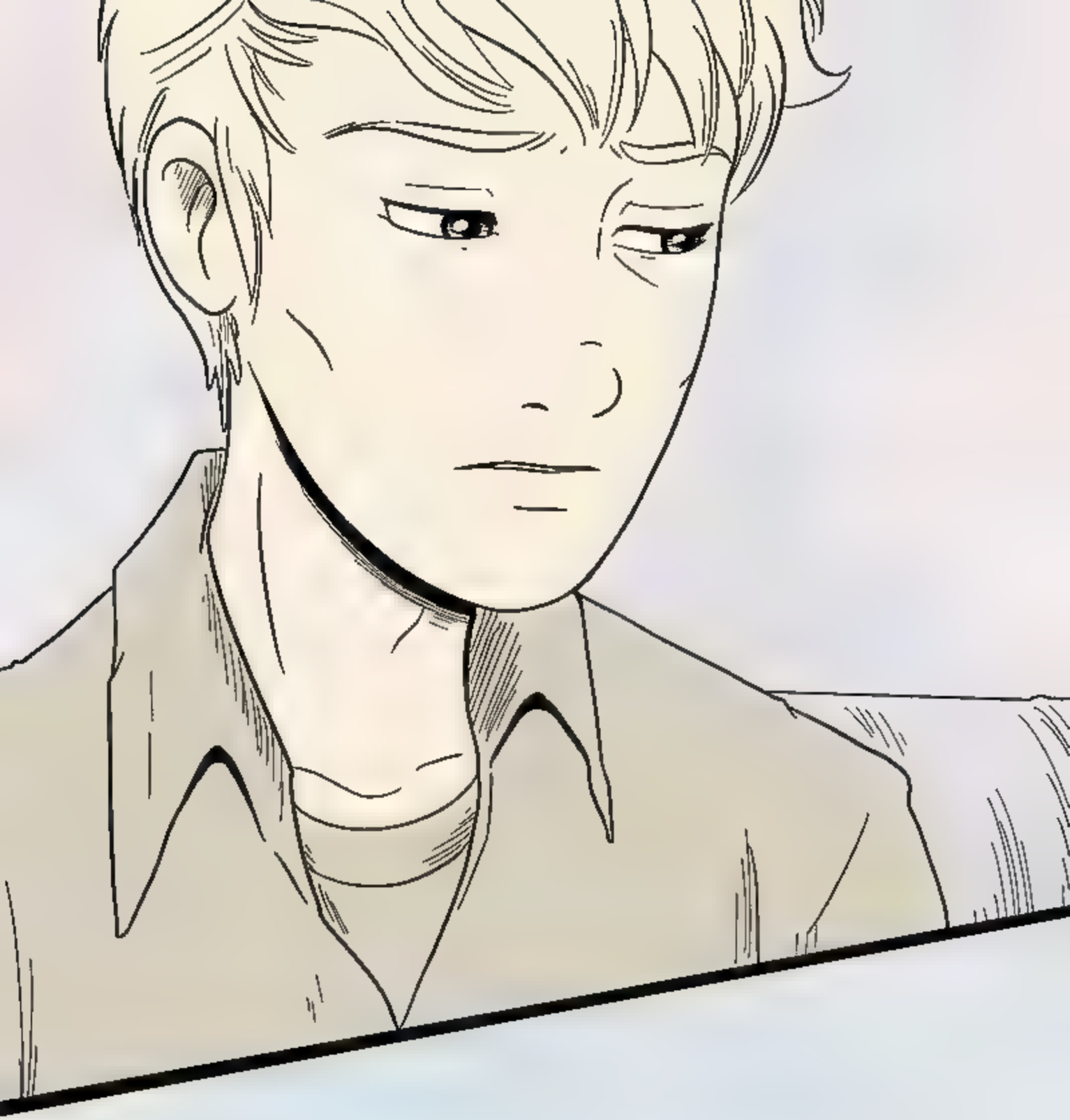
YOU REALLY LIKE FELIX, HUH?


I MEAN, YOU GUYS HIT IT OFF PRETTY WELL. YOU WORK WELL TOGETHER.

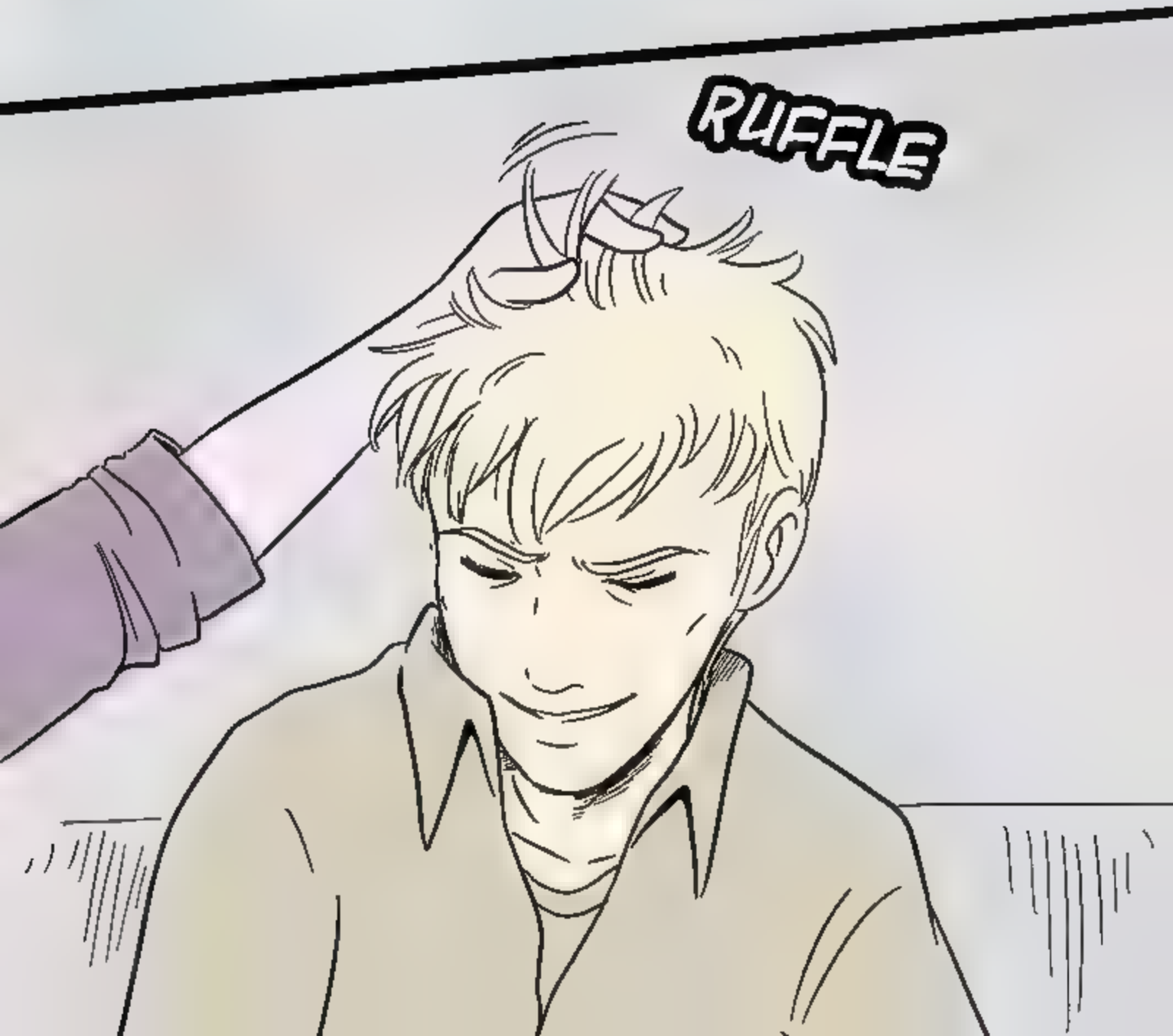
MUST'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT.

OH, YOU HAVE *NO* IDEA. BUT YEAH, HE'S BEEN GREAT. I WOULDN'T BE HERE WITHOUT HIS HELP.


YEAH.
YEAH, HE'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT.
REALLY AWESOME.

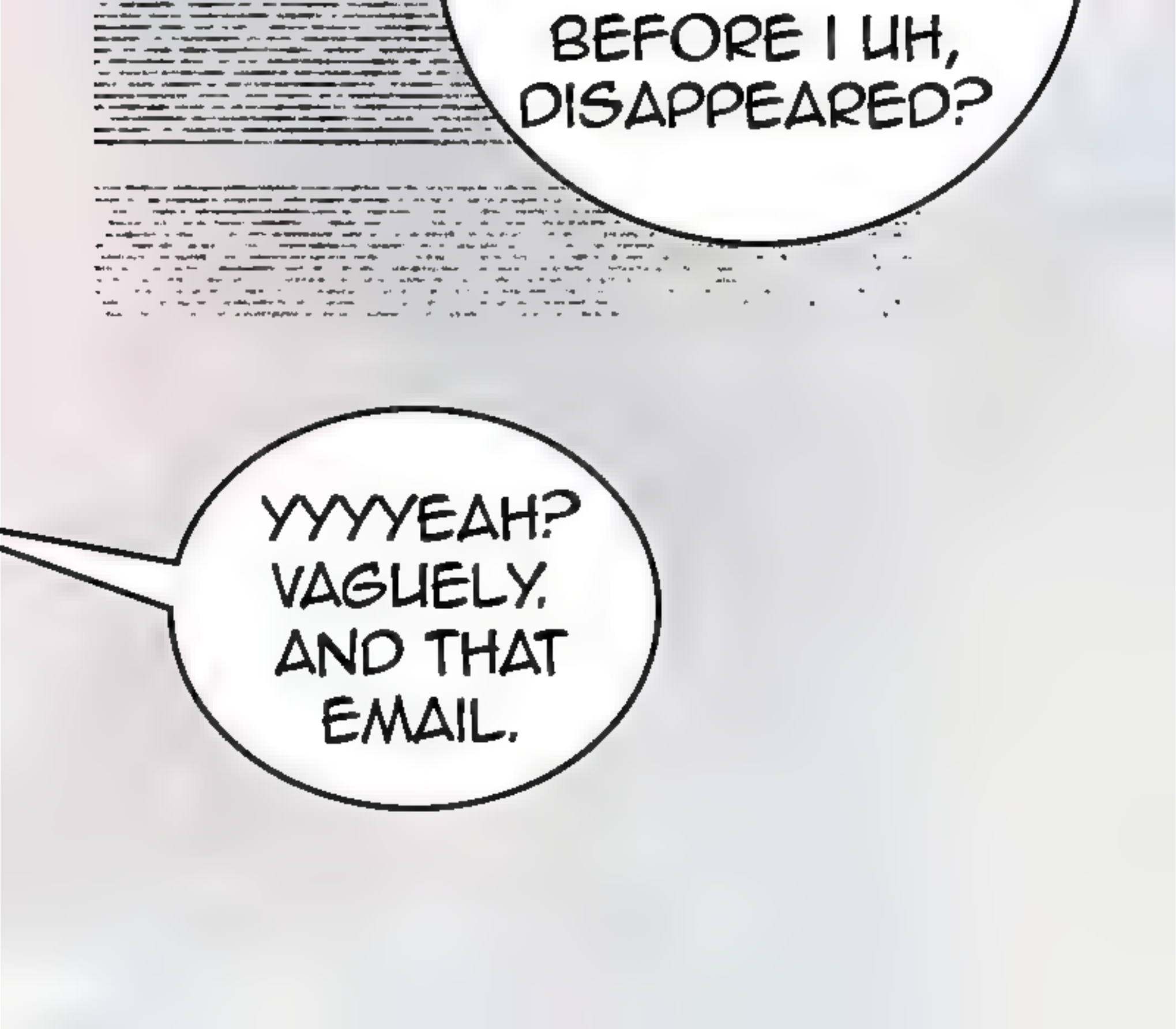

YOU TOO.

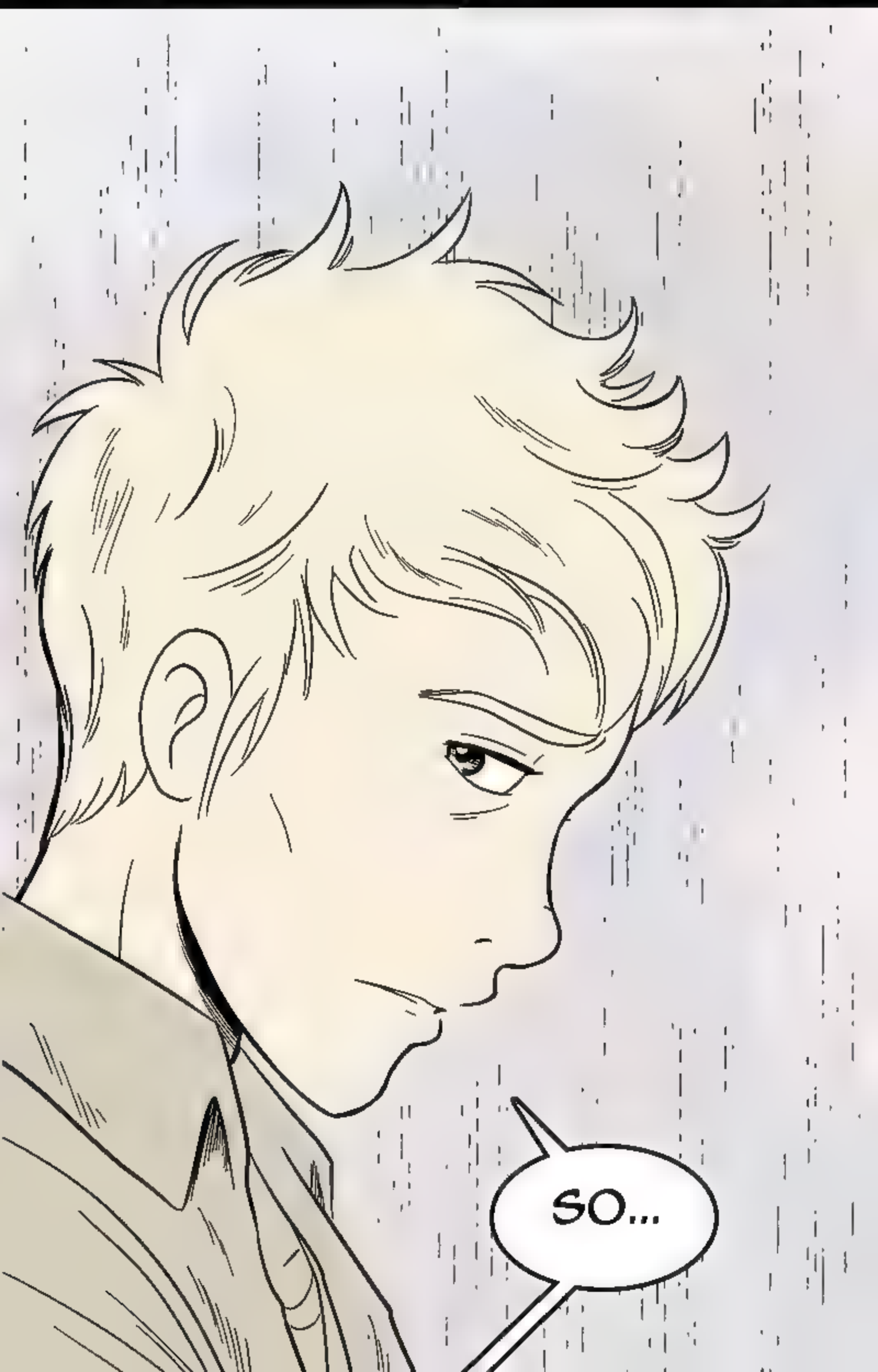
I'D BE DEAD WITHOUT *YOUR* HELP TOO, YOU DINGUS.

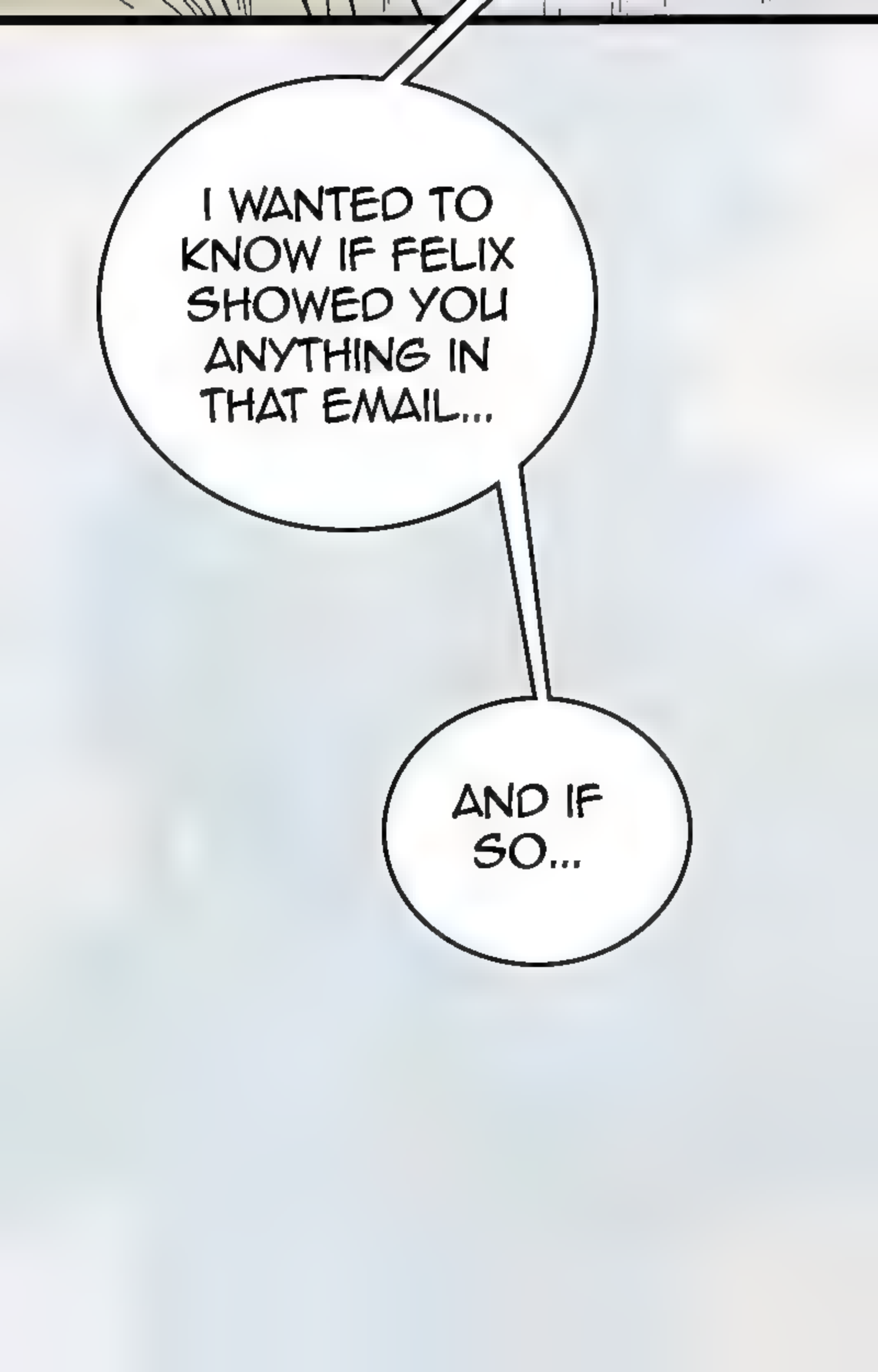


HAHA, OKAY, OKAY! MY HAIR LOOKS BAD ENOUGH!
IT'LL GROW BACK IN.

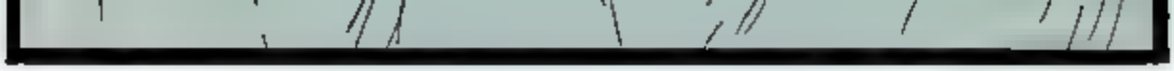
WELL...
ANYWAY, SO...
I WAS THINKING SOME STUFF THROUGH, AND I MIGHT HAVE AN IDEA.
DID FELIX EVER TELL YOU ABOUT SOME PACKAGES I LEFT WITH HIM

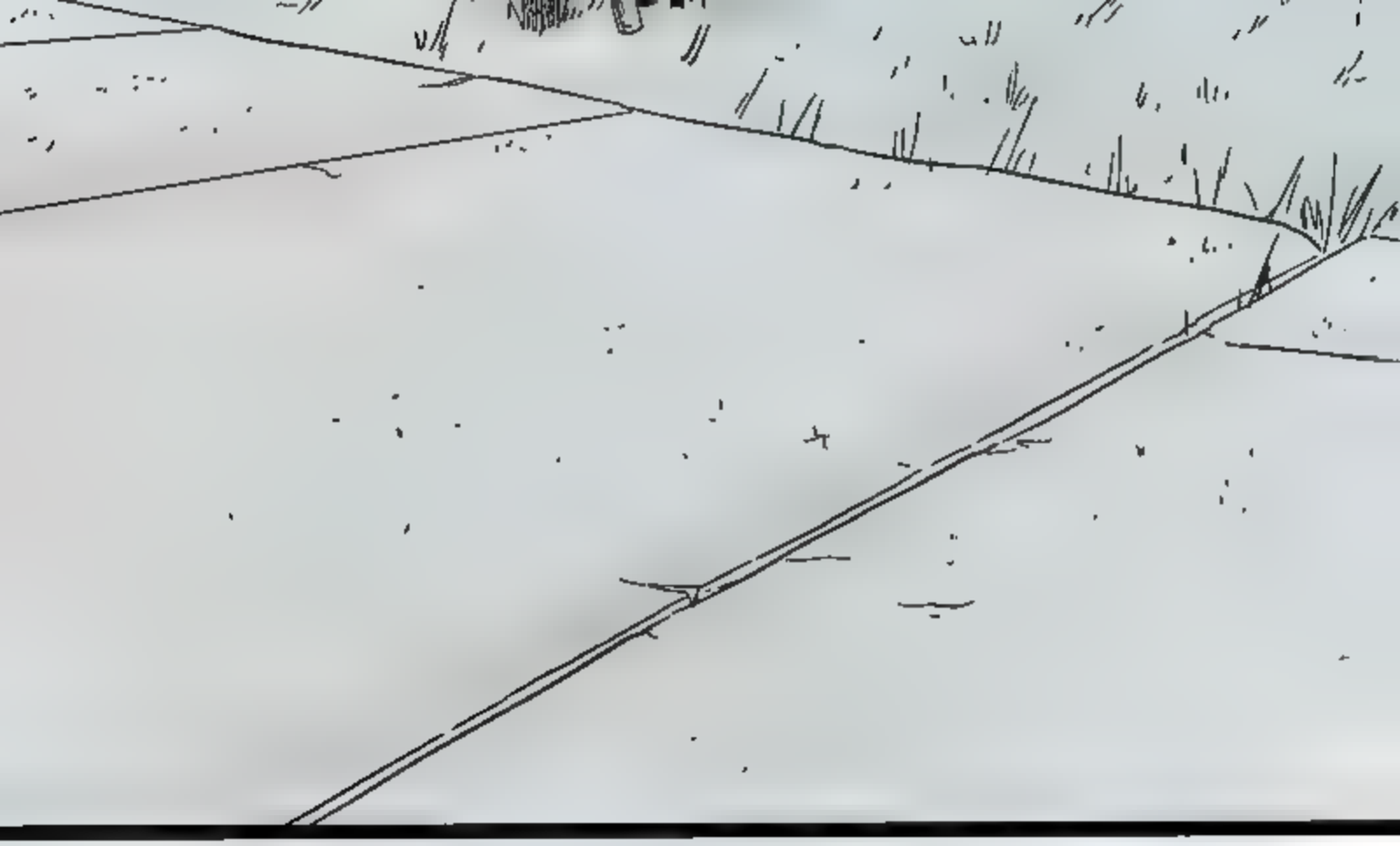

BEFORE I UH, DISAPPEARED?
YYYYEAH? VAGUELY. AND THAT EMAIL.

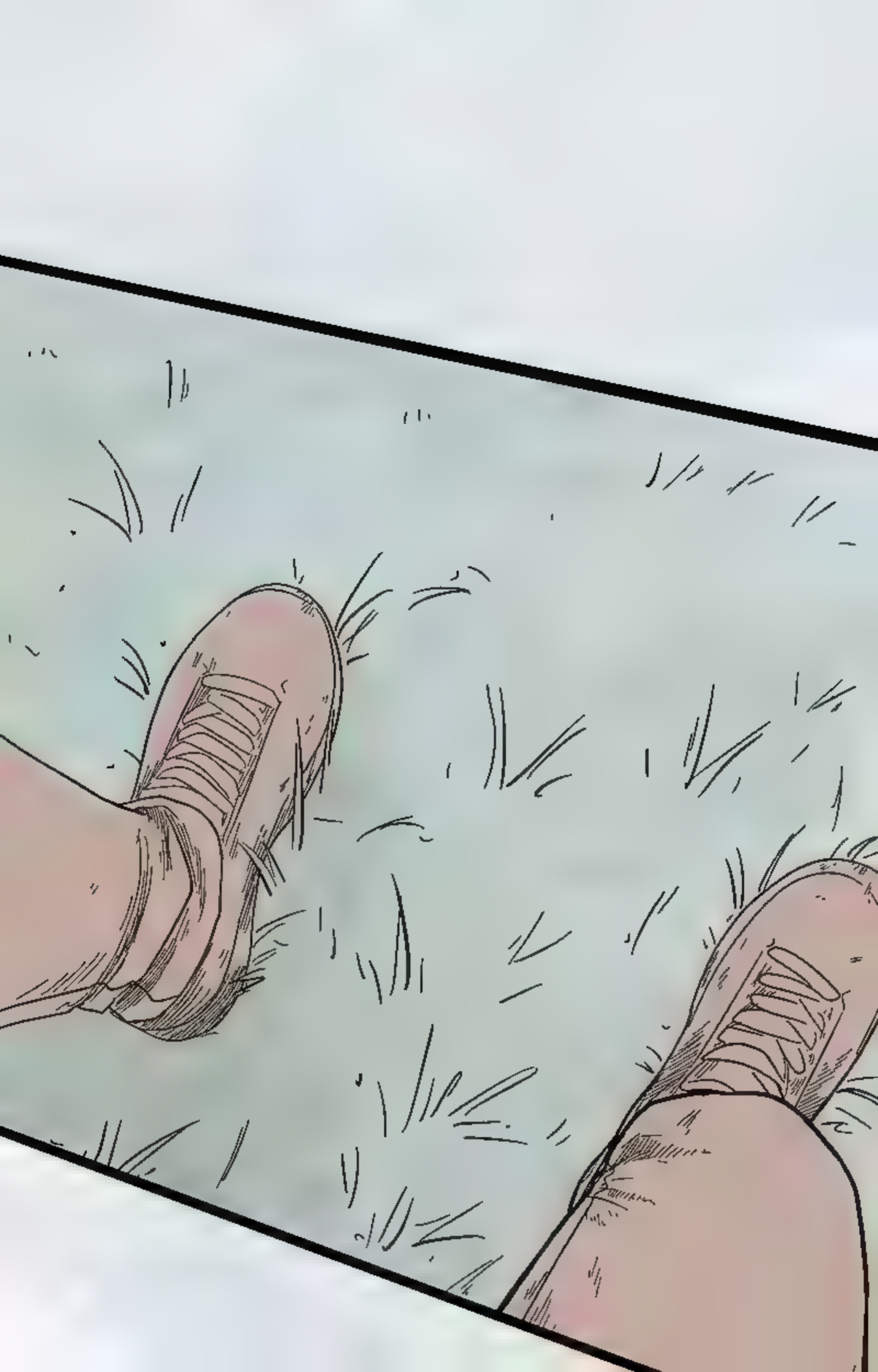

SO...


I WANTED TO KNOW IF FELIX SHOWED YOU ANYTHING IN THAT EMAIL...
AND IF SO...

...WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT OPERATION ARK.







SHOULDA TOLD
THEM.

DON'T KNOW WHY
I DIDN'T.

YEAH I DO.

BUT...

IT WOULD BE THE SMART THING TO DO.

BUT I'M NOT THE SMART ONE OF THE GROUP, SO IF I THOUGHT OF IT, MAYBE NOT.

WHAT IF THEY KICK ME OUT?

WHAT IF I'M A LIABILITY?

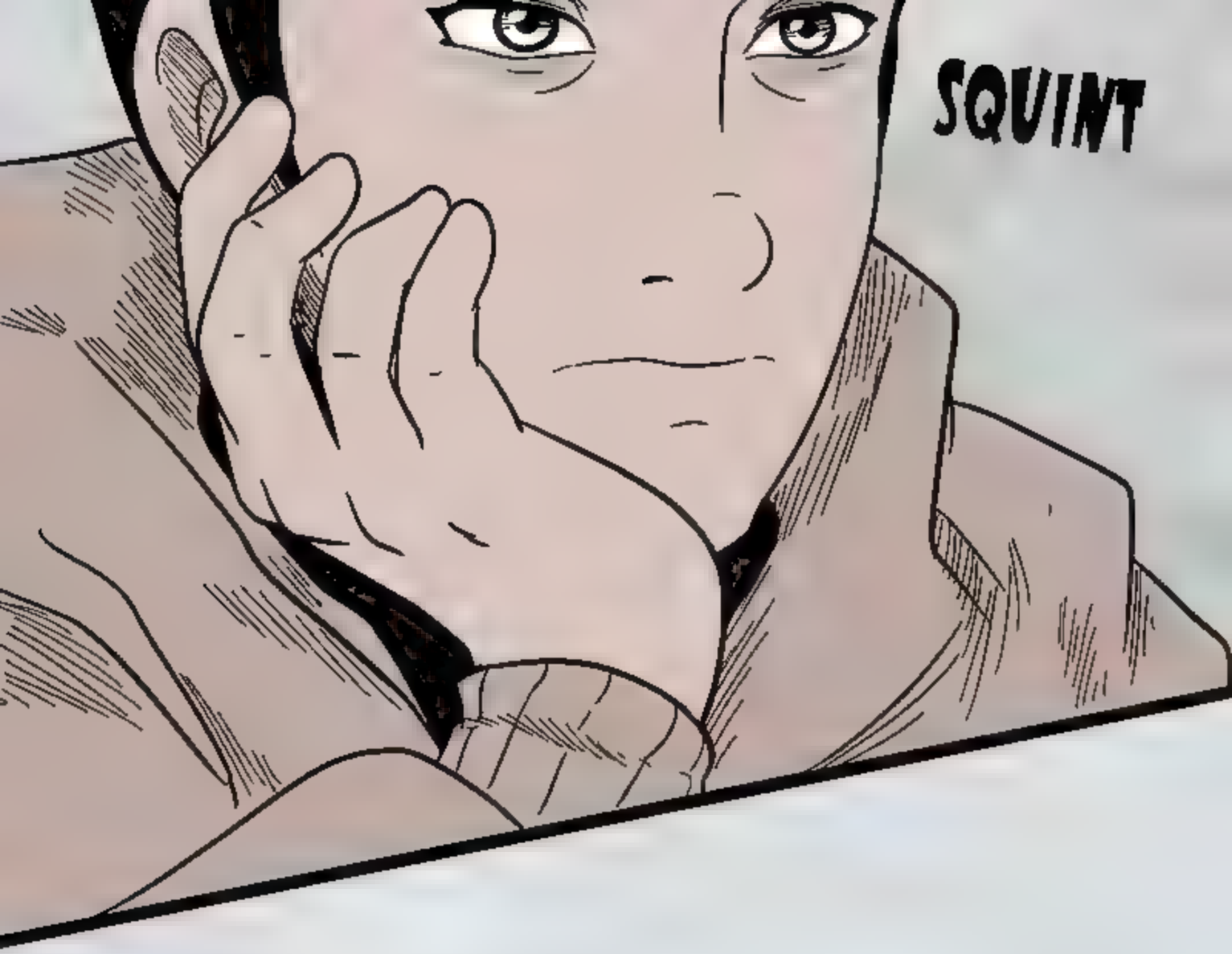
MAYBE THEY STOP TRUSTING ME AND JUST...GO ON PLANNING WITHOUT ME.

JUST KEEP BEING NICE TO MY FACE, BUT DONT TELL ME ANYTHING IMPORTANT.

THAT MIGHT BE BEST.

I DON'T KNOW ANYMORE.

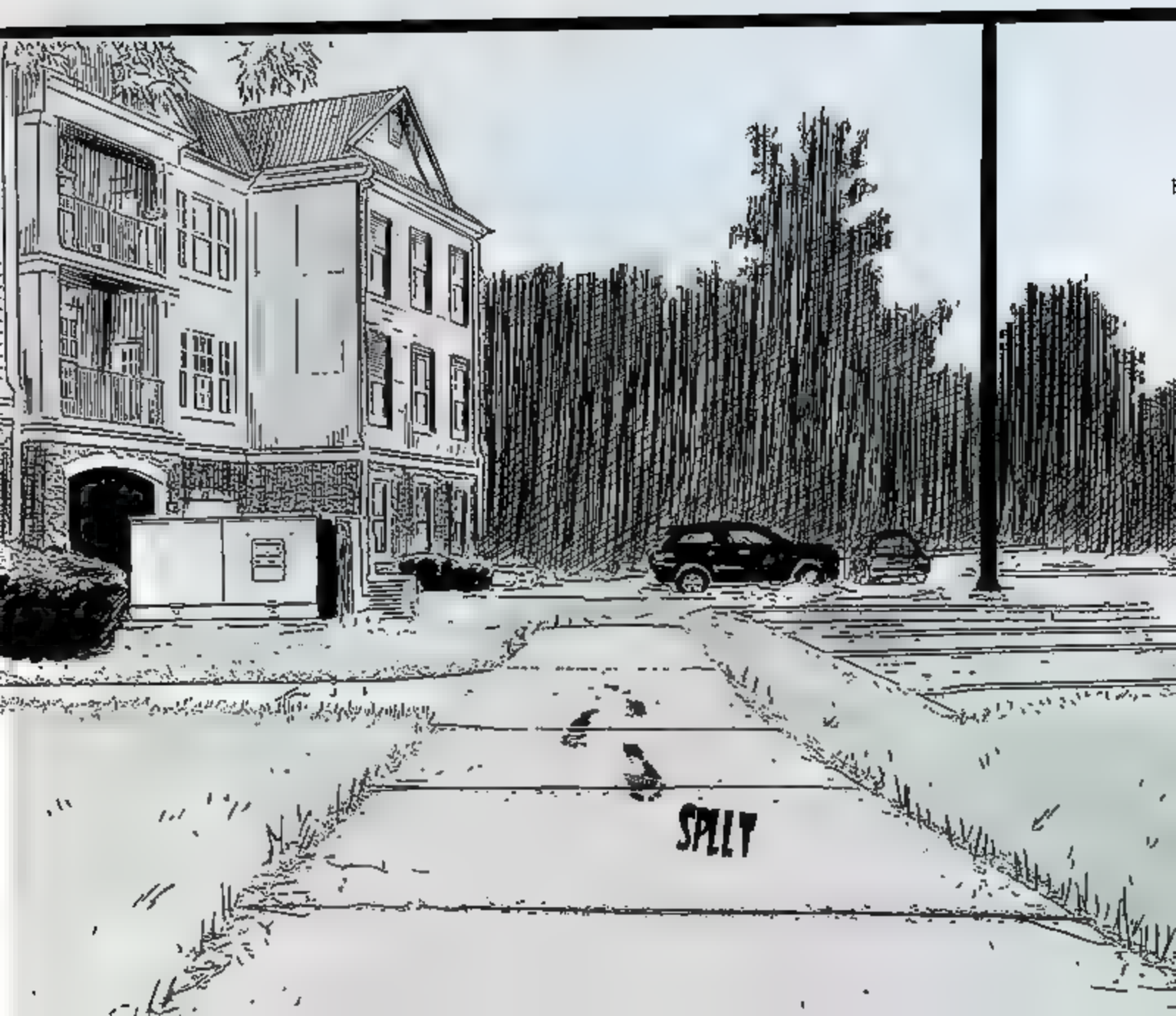
MAYBE I COU-

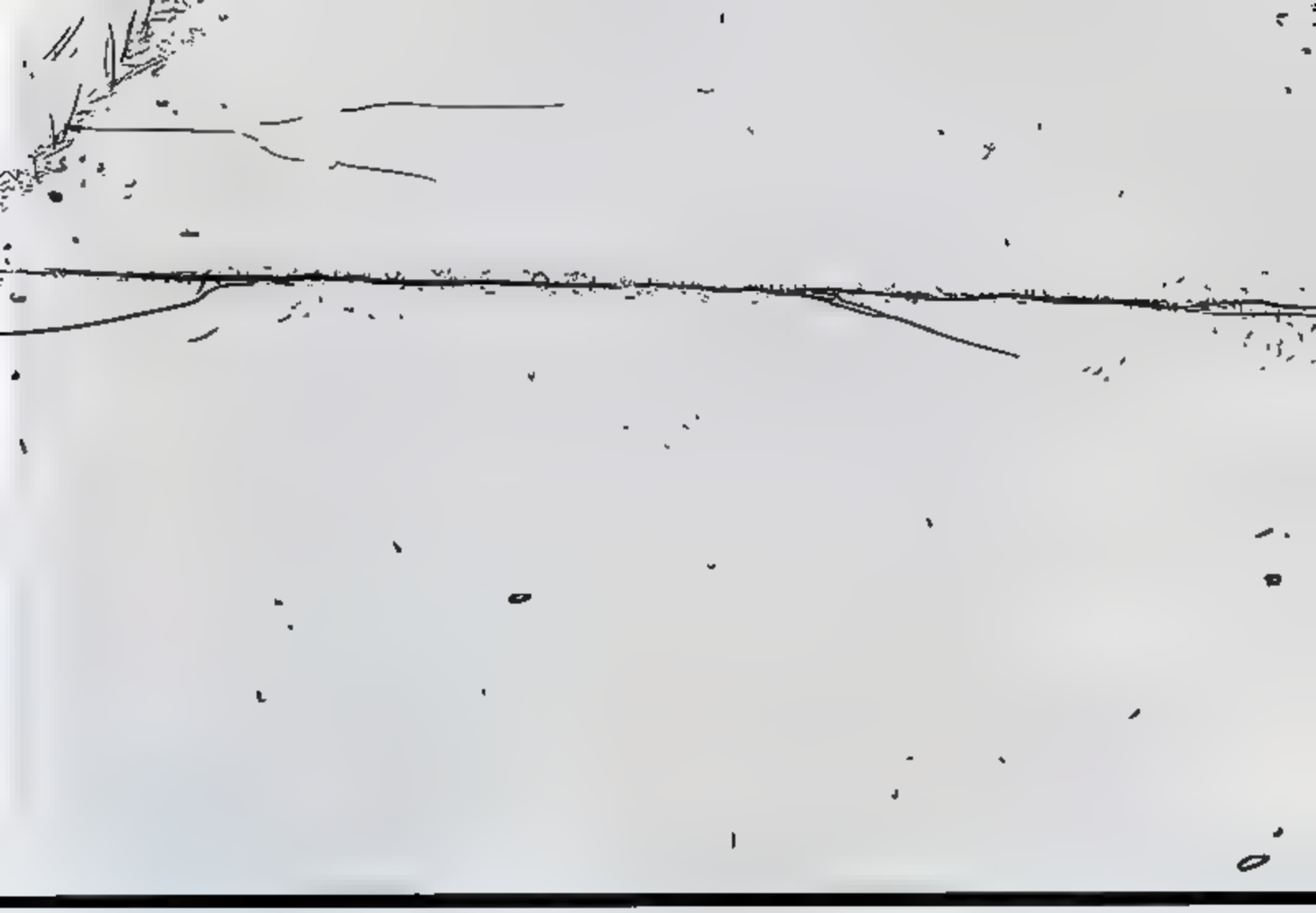


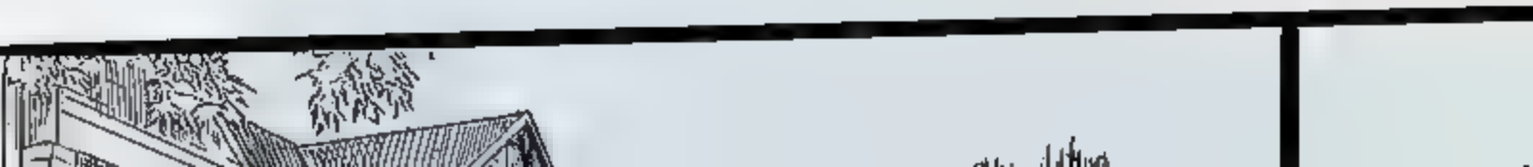
THE HELL IS THAT

THE HELL IS THAT...

SPLIT


SPLIT

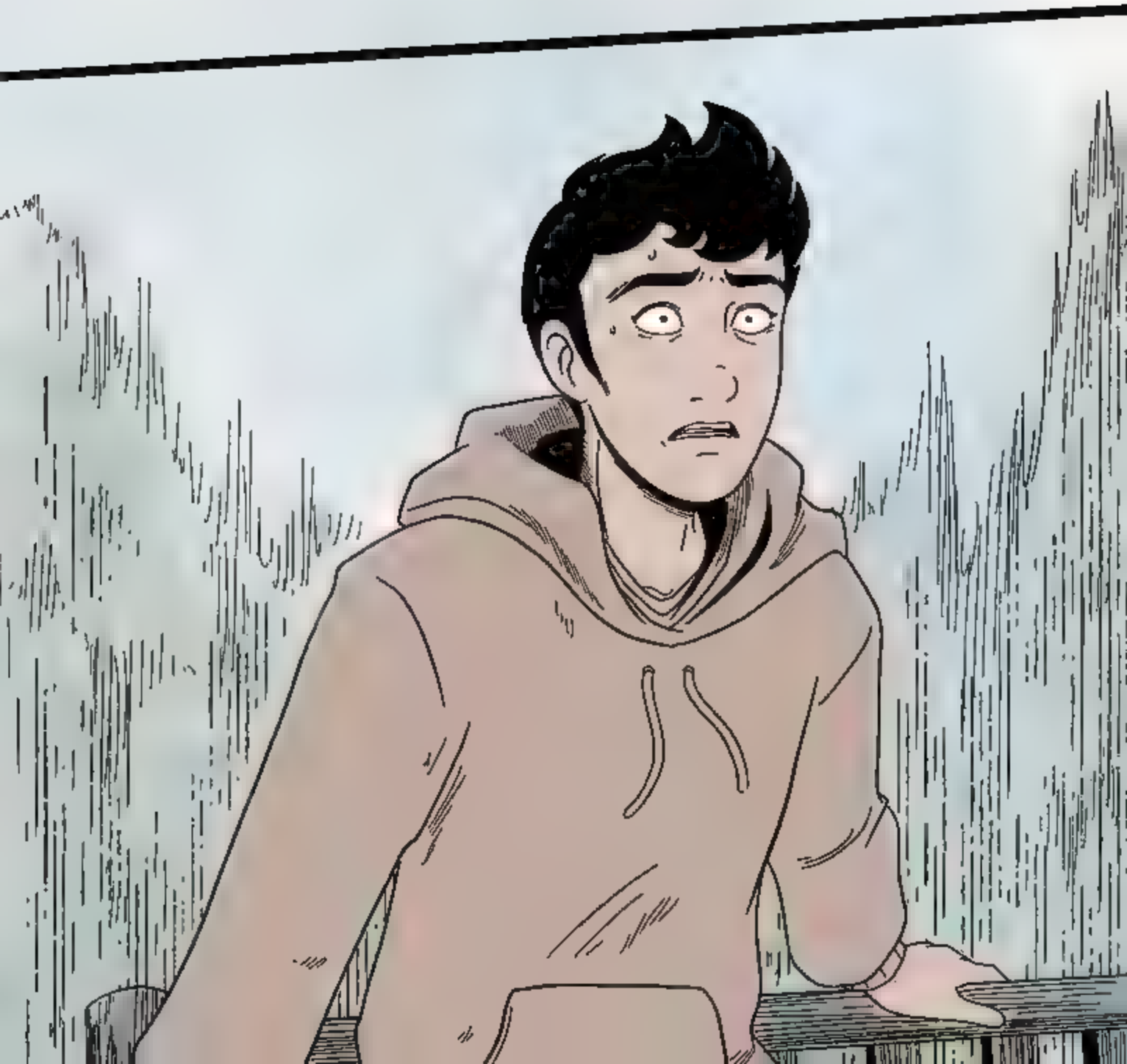


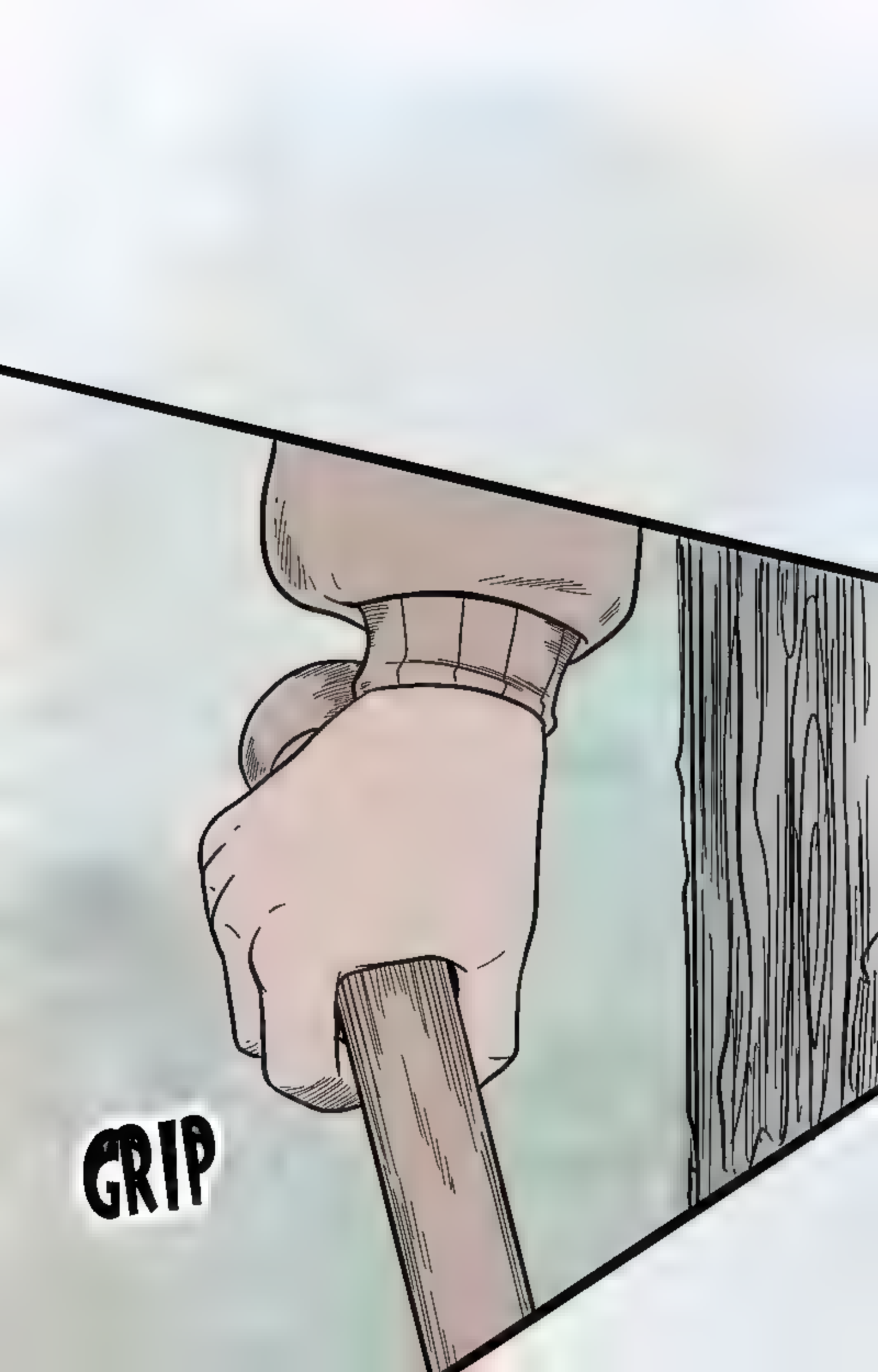


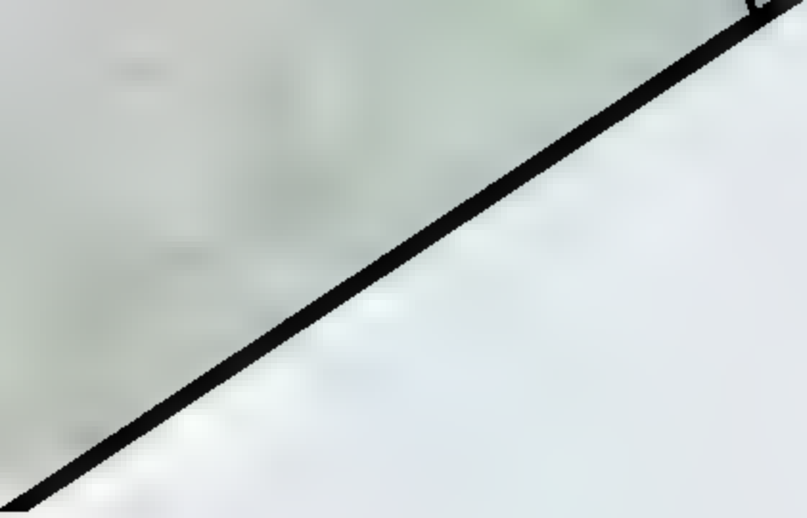
SPLIT

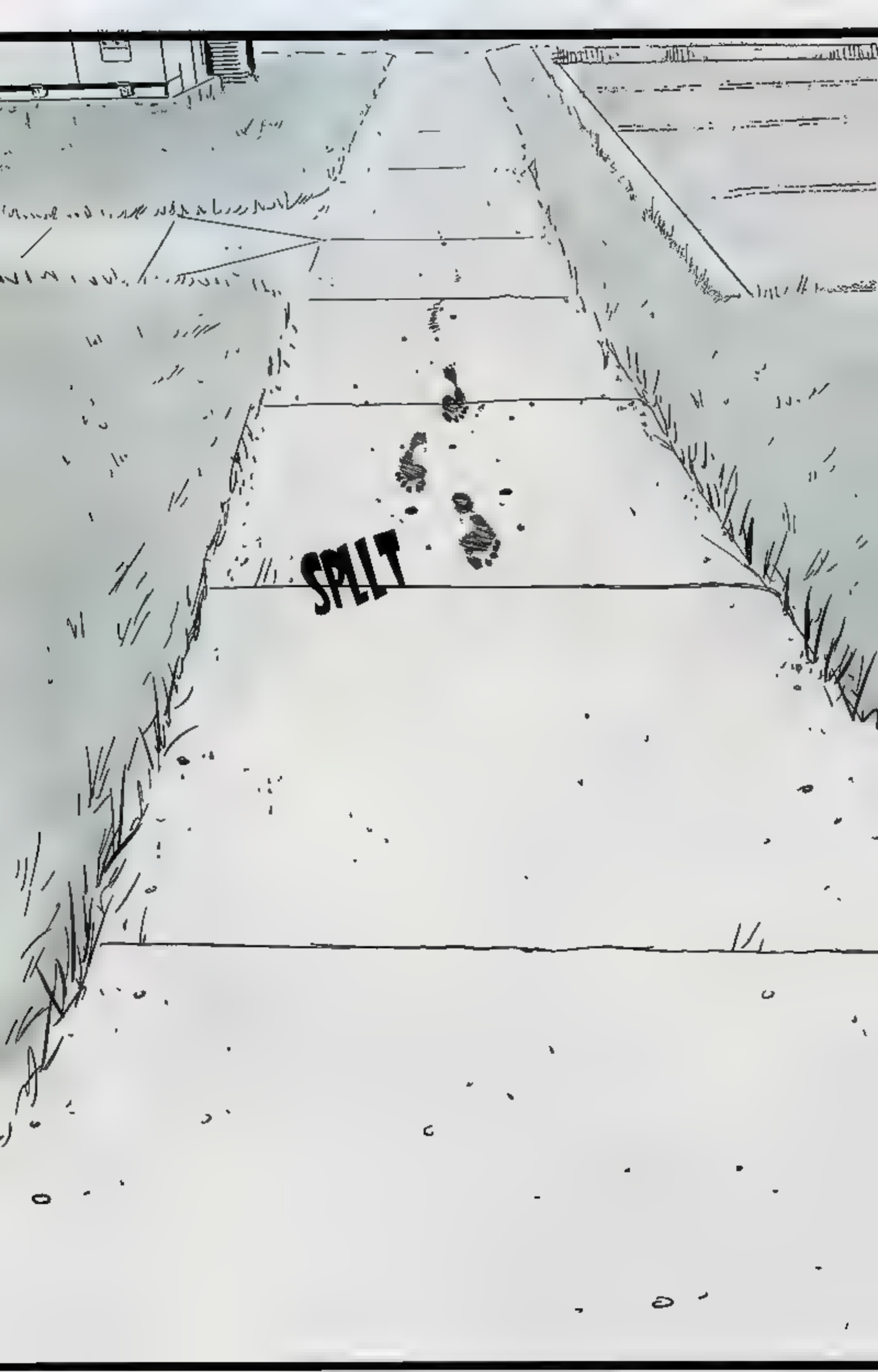
NO...

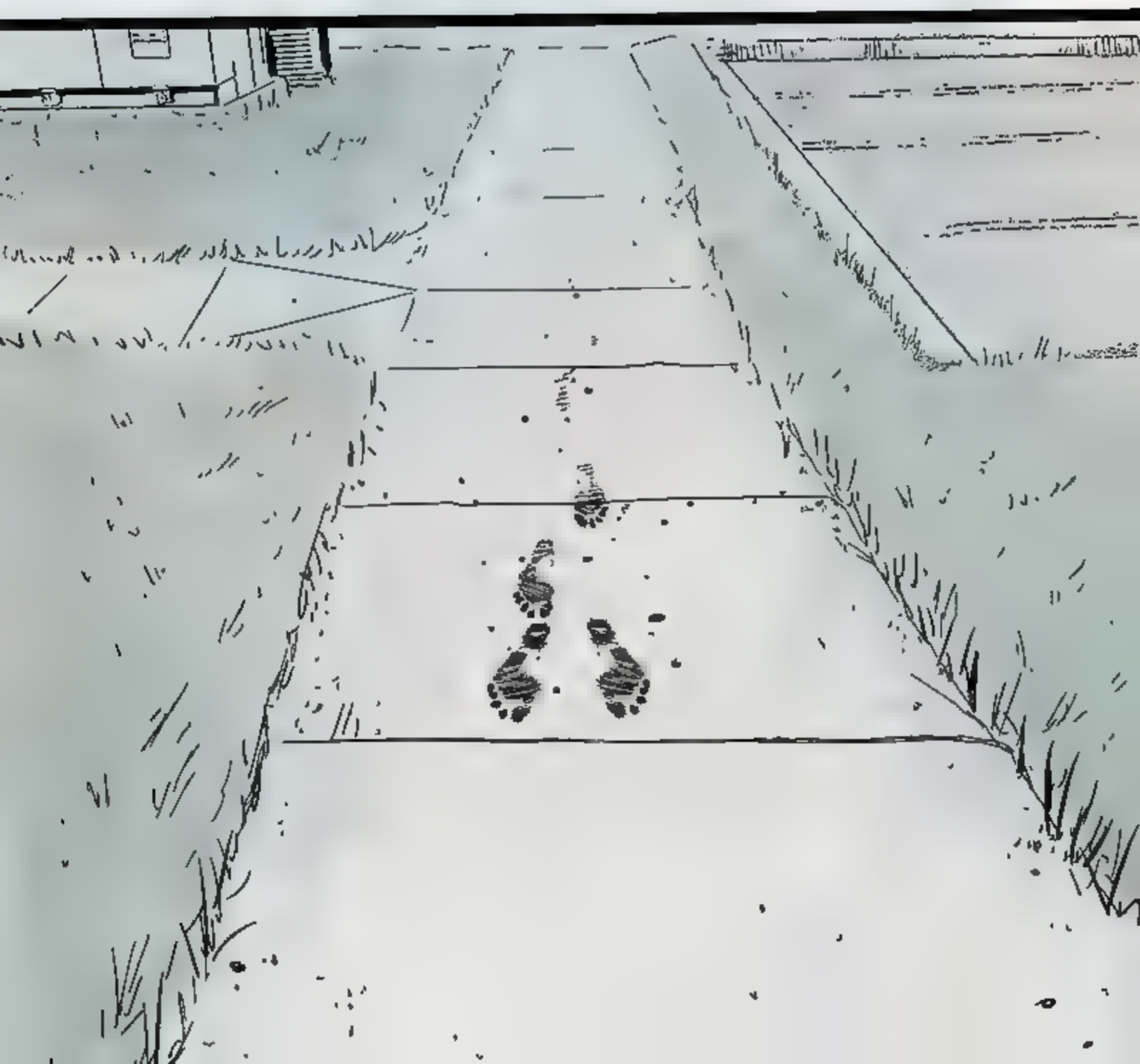
NO, NO, NO...

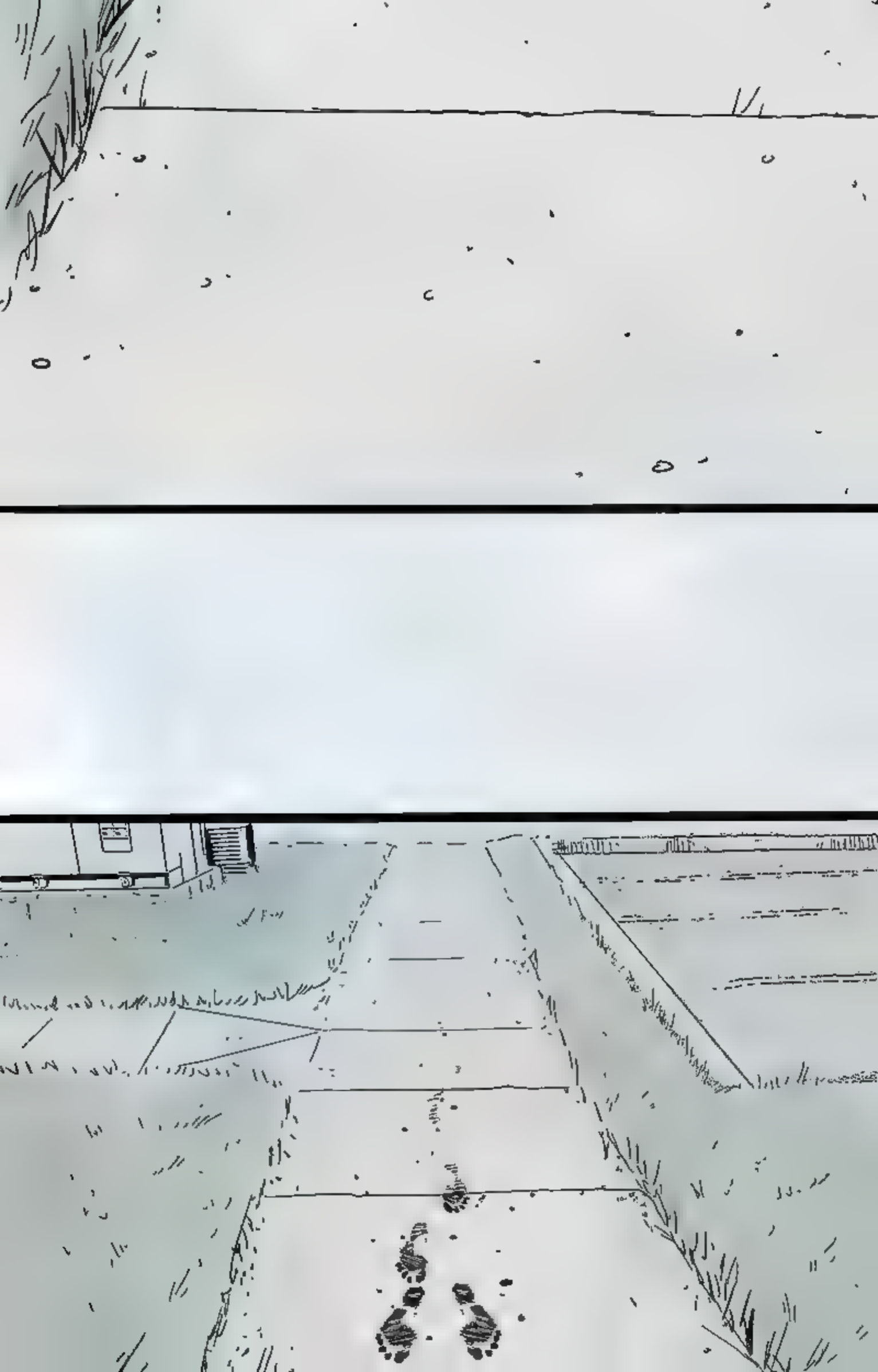


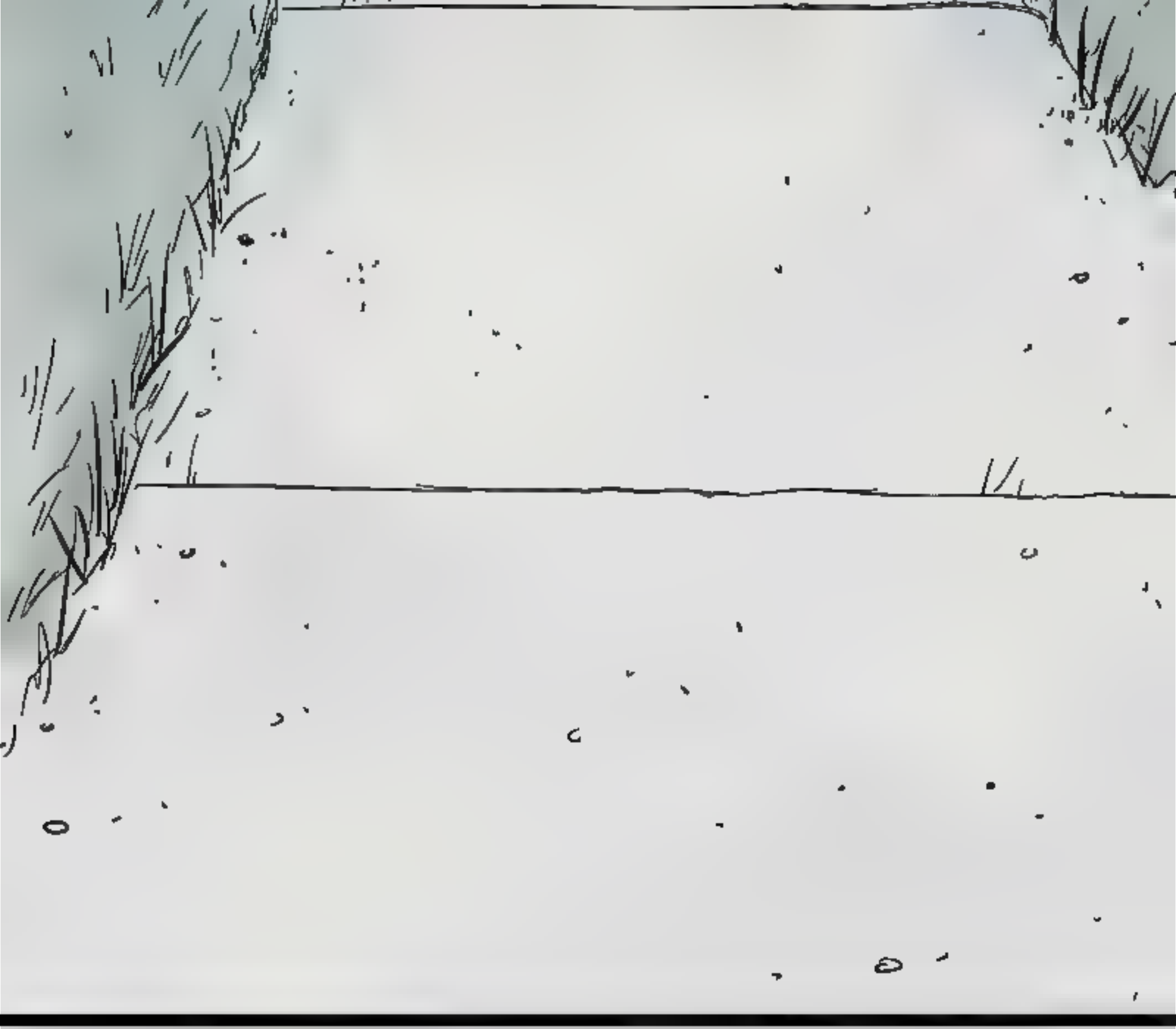

GRIP

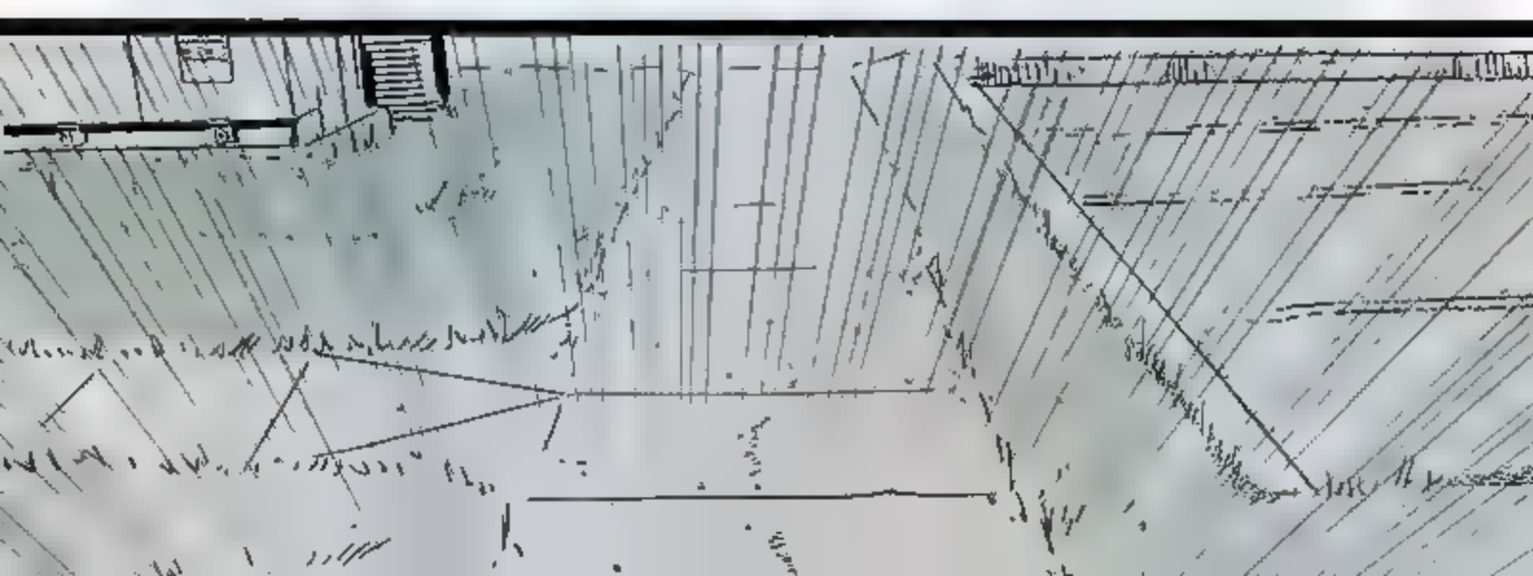



SPILT





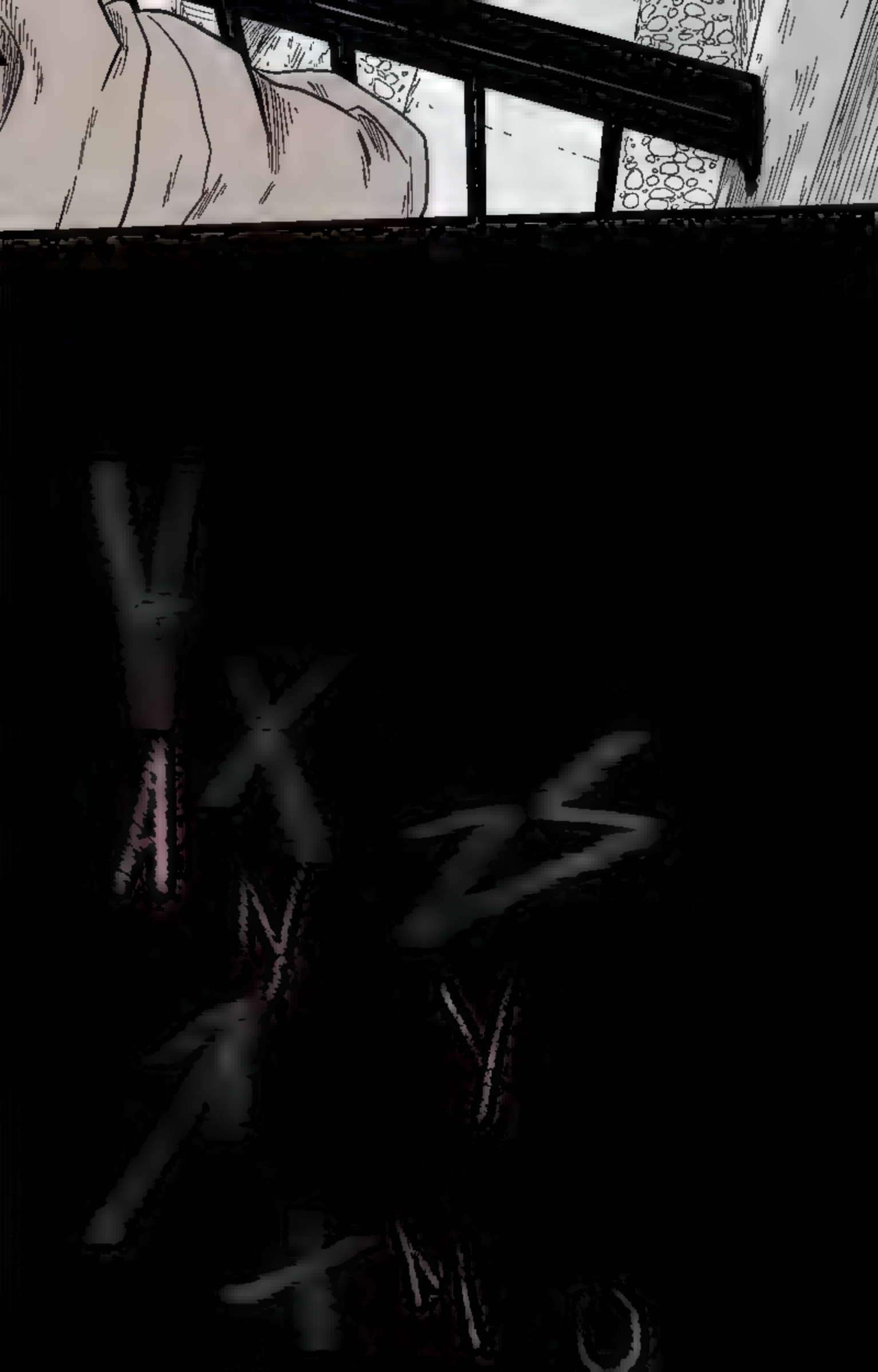




SPLIT
SPLIT
SPLIT
SPLIT
SPLIT
SPLIT
SPLIT

ΔΔΗΗ!!

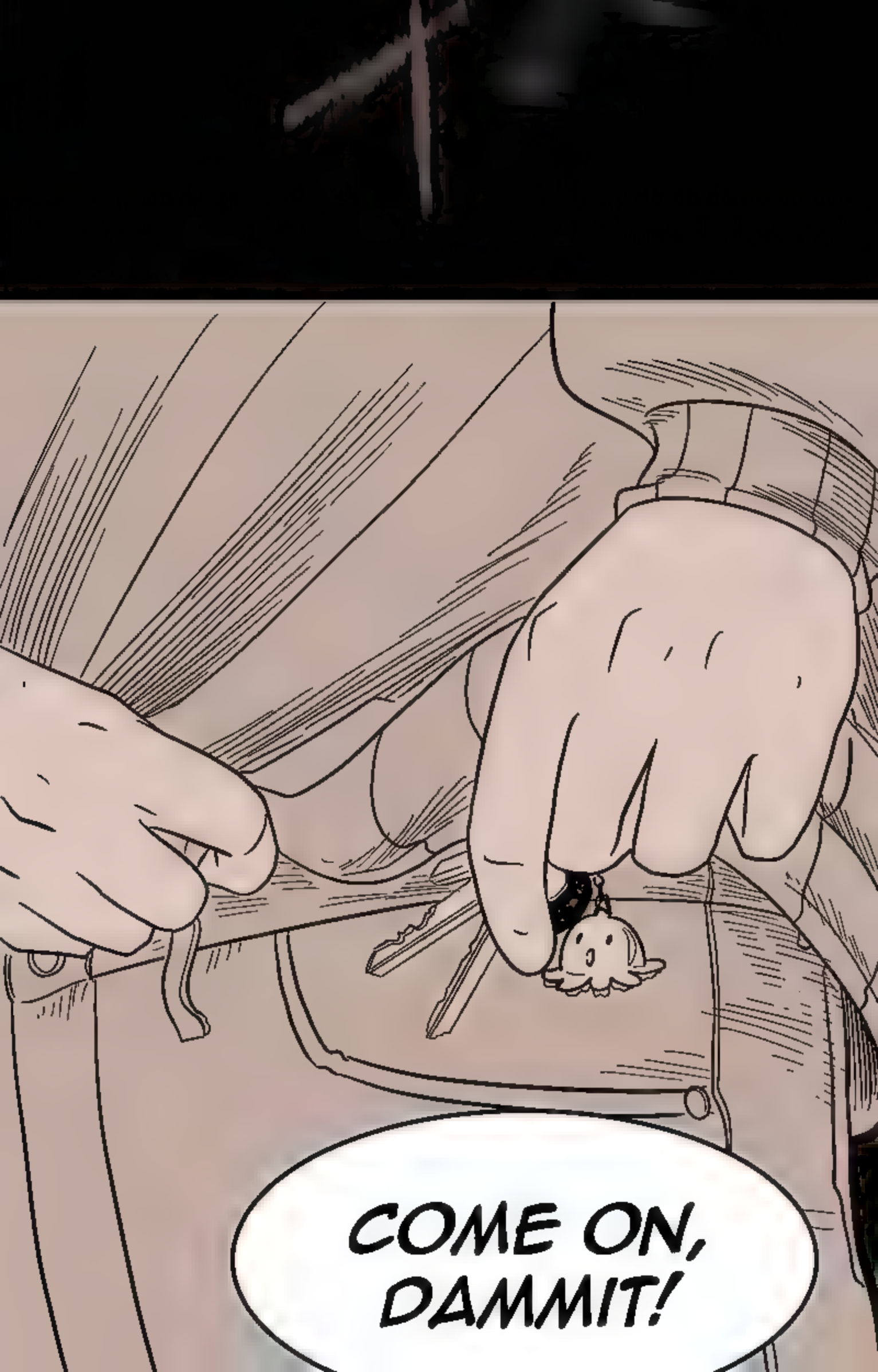
BOLT

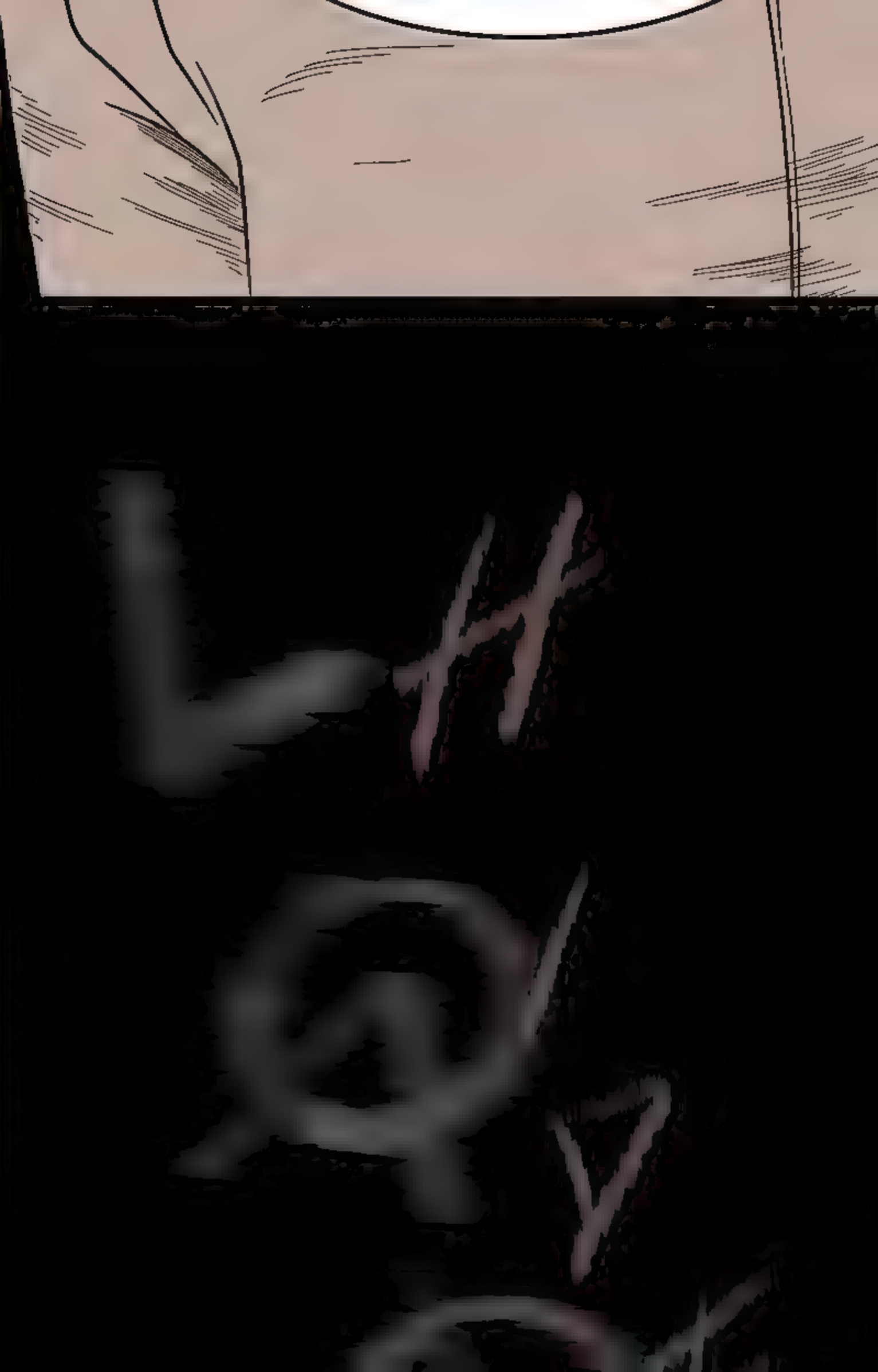


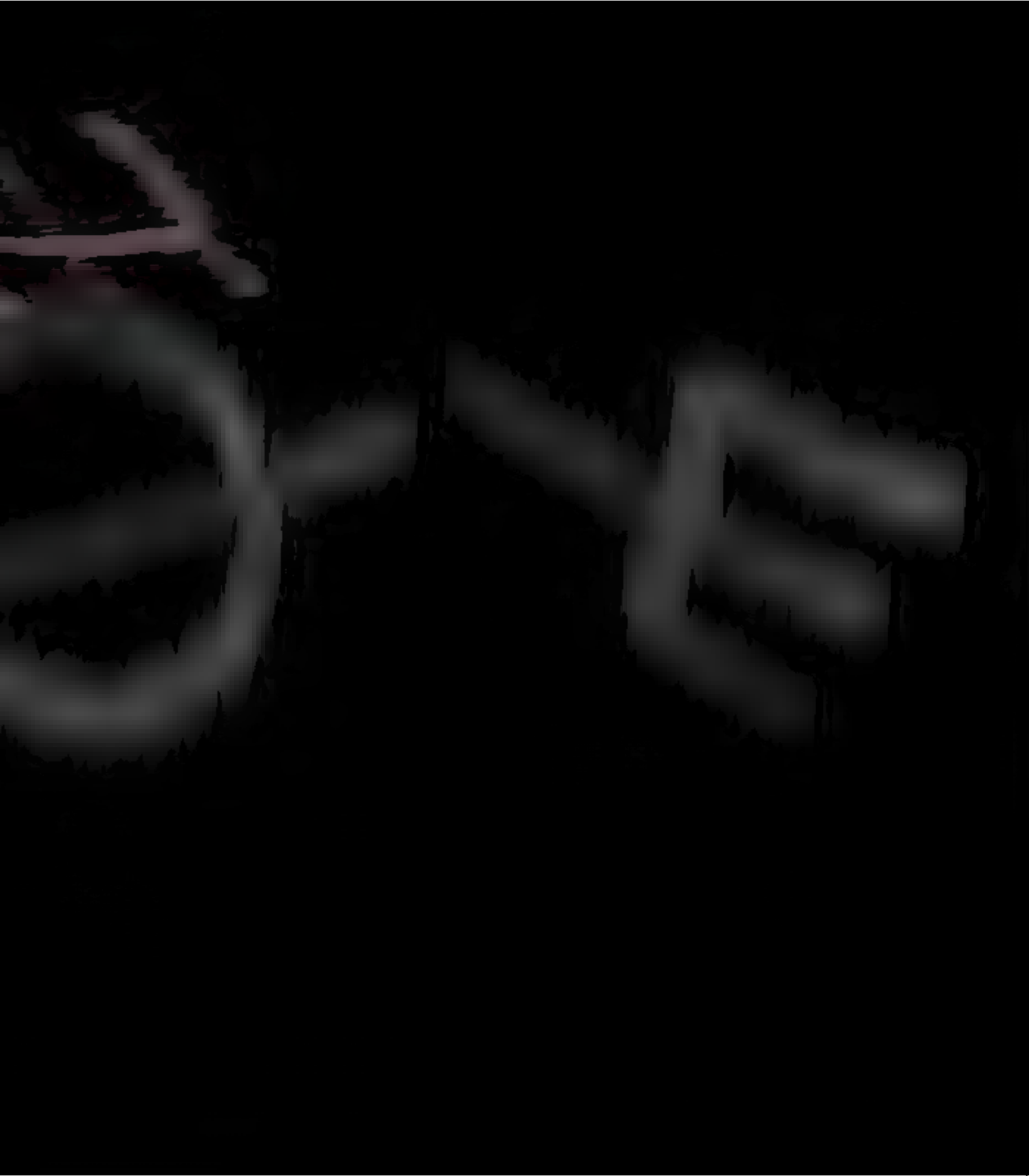
DASH

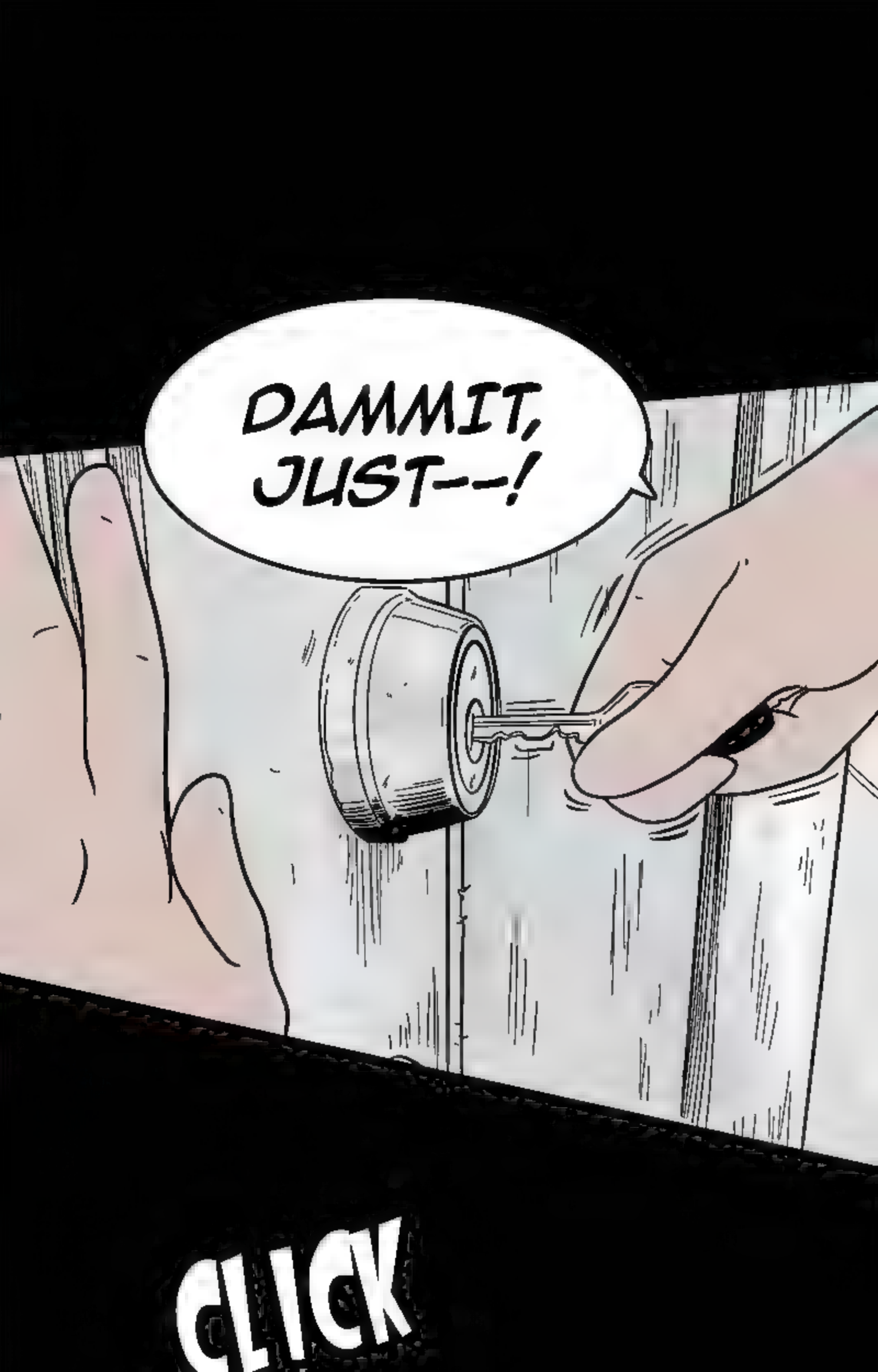
COME ON,
COME ON!
KEYS!!

CAN


COME ON, DAMMIT!

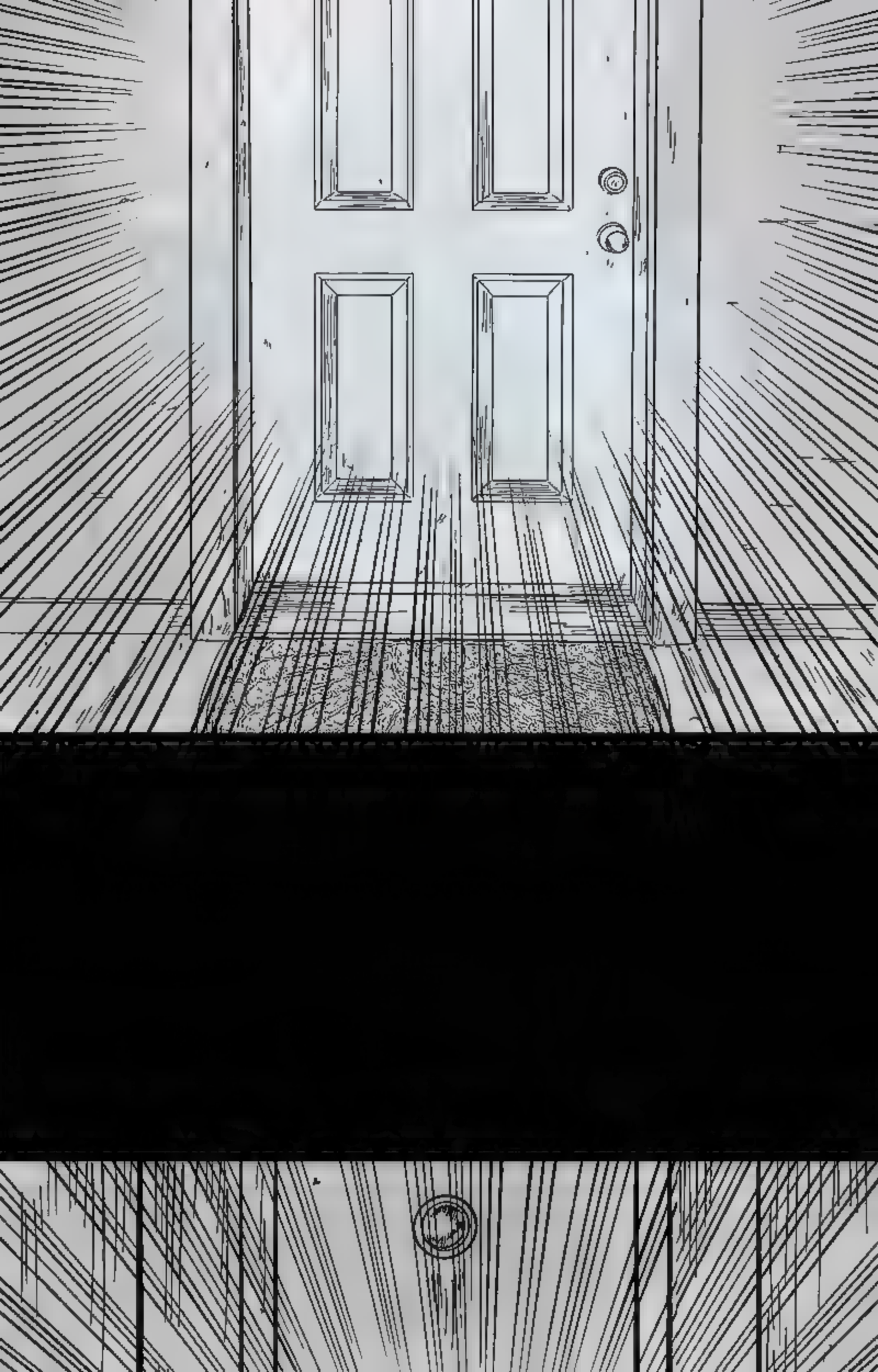





DAMMIT, JUST--!
CLICK

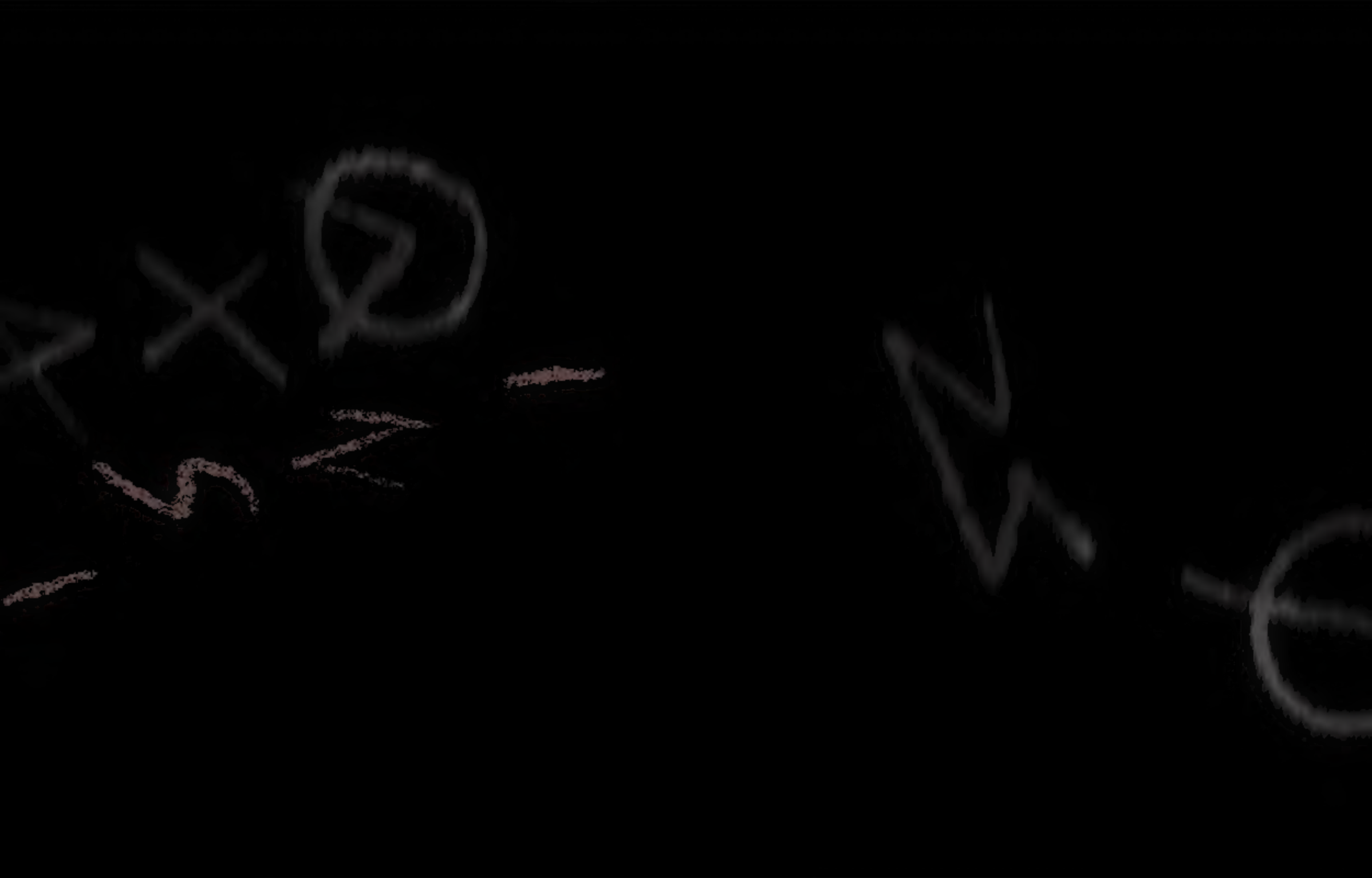
DASH

SLAM!



SPLAT

Walked



Q